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COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

# ANNUAL REPORT

1963-1964

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COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

ANNUAL REPORT 1963-64

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COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO

HON. LUIS MUÑOZ MARIN  
GOVERNOR OF PUERTO RICO  
LA FORTALEZA  
SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO

DEAR GOVERNOR MUÑOZ MARIN:

IT IS WITH PLEASURE THAT I SUBMIT A SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES PERFORMED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH DURING THE FISCAL YEAR 1963-64 AND A REPORT ON HEALTH CONDITIONS OF THE PUERTO RICANS IN 1963.

DURING THE YEAR 1963 HEALTH CONDITIONS IN PUERTO RICO WERE GOOD. THE MOST IMPORTANT DEVIATIONS FROM THIS STATE WERE: THE DENGUE EPIDEMIC WHICH STARTED IN MAY 1963 AND LASTED UNTIL THE END OF THE YEAR AND, THE INCREASE IN THE INCIDENCE OF DIARRHEA-ENTERITIS, OBSERVED AT THE END OF 1963 BUT WHICH CONTINUES AS OF JUNE 30, 1964.

THERE WERE 77,382 BIRTHS AND 17,386 DEATHS RECORDED IN 1963. THE BIRTH RATE WAS 30.8 AND THE DEATH RATE 6.9 PER THOUSAND POPULATION. OF THE TOTAL DEATHS RECORDED, 3,467 WERE IN CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE WITH A CORRESPONDING INFANT DEATH RATE OF 44.8, WHICH IS HIGHER THAN THE RATE FOR 1962. THIS INCREASE IS DUE TO THE INCREASE IN DEATHS CAUSED BY DIARRHEA-ENTERITIS, WHICH RATE ROSE IN TURN, FROM 33.9 IN 1962 TO 39.7 PER HUNDRED THOUSAND POPULATION IN 1963.

THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF DEATHS CAUSED BY DIARRHEA-ENTERITIS WAS AND CONTINUES TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH THE RURAL ZONES OF THE SOUTHERN AND CENTRAL REGIONS OF THE ISLAND, WHICH HAVE BEEN SEVERELY AFFECTED BY THE DROUGHT. AN INDIRECT CAUSE FOR THE INCREASE IN THE DIARRHEA-ENTERITIS SEEMS TO BE THE LACK OF A NATURAL PURIFICATION OF SURFACE WATERS THROUGH DILUTION AND AERATION, THIS BEING THE TYPE OF WATER CONSUMED BY MOST OF OUR RURAL POPULATION. ALSO, NATURALLY, THE SCARCITY OF WATER FOSTERS POOR PERSONAL HYGIENE. THIS SITUATION POINTS OUT THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM FOR RURAL AQUEDUCTS.

THE DENGUE OUTBREAK AFFECTED MOST OF THE ISLAND. HOWEVER, THE GENERAL MORTALITY RATE WAS NOT AFFECTED, BECAUSE ALTHOUGH THE DISEASE PRESENTED SEVERE SYMPTOMS, IT CAUSED PRACTICALLY NO DEATHS. IN SPITE OF THE SLIGHT REDUCTION OBSERVED IN THE NUMBER OF CASES IN VIRAL HEPATITIS THAT WERE REPORTED, THIS DISEASE CONTINUES TO BE AN IMPORTANT PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEM. AN INCREASE WAS ALSO OBSERVED IN THE CASES OF INFECTIOUS SYPHILIS, MAINLY AMONG ADOLESCENT AND YOUNG ADULTS.

IT WAS EXPECTED THAT AN EPIDEMIC POLIOMYELITIS OUTBREAK MIGHT OCCUR IN 1963 BECAUSE THIS DISEASE HAD BEEN APPEARING EVERY FOUR YEARS AND PAST OUTBREAKS OCCURRED IN 1955 AND 1960. HOWEVER, IN 1963 ONLY FOUR CASES WERE REPORTED AND EVER SINCE THE VACCINATION PROGRAM CARRIED OUT IN THE MONTHS OF APRIL AND MAY 1963, NO CASES HAVE BEEN CONFIRMED.







A DECREASE WAS ALSO NOTED IN THE DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS AND PNEUMONIAS; BUT SLIGHT INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN MORTALITY RATES FROM HEART DISEASES, CANCER AND CARDIOVASCULAR ACCIDENTS.

MANY OF THE PROGRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH WERE EXPANDED AND IMPROVED. TOWARDS THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR, SPECIAL PROJECTS WERE PLANNED FOR AN INCREASE IN MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH SERVICES IN THE NORTHEAST AND SOUTH REGIONS. THESE PROJECTS WILL BE INITIATED DURING FISCAL YEAR 1964-65 WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

THE MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM IS BEING EXPANDED TO NEW MUNICIPALITIES AS THE AVAILABILITY OF TRAINED PERSONNEL PERMITS.

WITH A SUBSTANTIAL GRANT FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IT WAS FEASIBLE TO PLAN AN ERADICATION PROGRAM AGAINST THE Aedes Aegypti MOSQUITO, THE DENGUE VECTOR, TO BE INITIATED DURING FISCAL YEAR 1964-65.

MEDICAL CARE SERVICES WERE ALSO STRENGTHENED IN COLLABORATION WITH THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS. THERE IS STILL A SCARCITY OF TRAINED PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL PERSONNEL, SPECIALLY FOR NON-METROPOLITAN AREA POSITIONS, BUT IT HAS BEEN POSSIBLE TO RECRUIT AND RETAIN IN SERVICE A LARGER NUMBER OF PROFESSIONALS IN SMALL MUNICIPALITIES.

THE HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM HAS BEEN CONTINUED WITH RELATIVELY FEW DIFFICULTIES. DURING THIS YEAR THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS WERE COMPLETED: THE SAN SEBASTIAN HEALTH CENTER; REMODELATION AND NEW BUILDINGS OF THE RUIZ SOLER TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL; THE PSYCHIATRY UNIT FOR AMBULATORY PATIENTS IN PONCE AND THE VIEQUES HEALTH CENTER.

THE PUBLIC WELFARE PROGRAMS ARE BEING DEVELOPED SO AS TO GIVE MORE EMPHASIS TO THE REHABILITATION OF THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE FAMILY.

DURING FISCAL YEAR 1963-64, A TOTAL OF 126,452 PERSONS, OR GROUPS OF PERSONS RECEIVED REGULAR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE BECAUSE THEY LACKED SUFFICIENT ECONOMIC RESOURCES TO MEET THEIR MINIMUM NEEDS. AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FISCAL YEAR THERE WERE 113,293 BENEFICIARIES RECEIVING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND AT THE END OF THE YEAR THERE WERE 107,612, OR A REDUCTION OF 8,338. THE REDUCTION WAS MAINLY IN THE OLD AGE CATEGORY DUE TO THE FACT THAT A LARGER NUMBER OF PERSONS UPON REACHING 65 YEARS WERE ENTITLED TO FEDERAL SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS. EMERGENCY ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE WAS GIVEN TO 17,387 CASES.

A TOTAL OF 120,067 FAMILIES PARTICIPATED IN THE FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM FOR SURPLUS FOODSTUFFS DONATED BY THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE. THIS FIGURE INCLUDES BENEFICIARIES FROM THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM REACHED 8,403 FAMILIES WITH 23,324 CHILDREN. HOUSE-KEEPER SERVICES WERE RENDERED TO 1,386 MINORS; THE FOSTER HOME PROGRAM ASSISTED 1,751 CHILDREN. A TOTAL OF 512 ADOPTION APPLICATIONS WERE APPROVED. THE LICENSURE OF HOMES FOR CHILD DAY CARE WAS STARTED WITH 139 CENTERS AND 377 HOMES REGISTERED. THE YOUTH ORIENTATION PROGRAM WAS EXPANDED. THE 23 YOUTH COUNSELLORS EMPLOYED NOT ONLY HAD 12 ADOLESCENT GROUPS UNDER THEIR ATTENTION, BUT ALSO WORKED WITH MINORS DISCHARGED FROM THE INSTITUTIONS.








A TOTAL OF 3,360 CHILDREN WERE CARED FOR IN THOSE INSTITUTIONS OPERATING FOR THE CHILD PRESENTING BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS. THE ENROLLMENT AT THE INSTITUTE FOR BLIND CHILDREN WAS 106; AND 111 ADULTS WERE IN THE HOME FOR THE ADULT BLIND.

IN THE FOLLOWING PAGES A SUMMARY IS PRESENTED ON THE MOST IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1963-64.

CORDIALLY YOURS,



GUILLERMO ARBONA, M.D.,  
SECRETARY OF HEALTH



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## PREVENTIVE MEDICAL SERVICES

### COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARRIES ON CONTROL PROGRAMS WITH CERTAIN COMMUNICABLE DISEASES. ACTIVITIES CONSIST OF PUBLIC EDUCATION, IMMUNIZATION AND REQUIRED TREATMENT OF CASES.

AMONG THE MOST IMPORTANT CAUSES OF DEATH IN PUERTO RICO, DIARRHEA-ENTERITIS IS THE LEADING ONE IN INFANTS. IN 1963 THIS DISEASE DECREASED IN THE NORTH REGION BUT WAS INCREASING IN THE RURAL ZONE OF THE SOUTH REGION DUE TO THE SEVERE DROUGHT. IN 1963 A TOTAL OF 787 INFANTS DIED DUE TO DIARRHEA-ENTERITIS. CONTROL MEASURES IN EFFECT WERE INTENSIFIED WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS IN THE EDUCATION OF MOTHERS IN PERSONAL HYGIENE AND FOOD PREPARATION, BESIDES PROVISION OF HOSPITAL CARE SERVICES.

HEPATITIS CASES INFORMED FOR THE YEAR 1963 WERE 949, A REDUCTION OF 165 WHEN COMPARED WITH LAST YEAR FIGURE.

A VIGOROUS IMMUNIZATION CAMPAIGN HAS BEEN LAUNCHED IN CHILDREN UP TO FIVE YEARS TO PROTECT THEM AGAINST DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH, POLIOMYELITIS AND TETANUS. A SPECIAL VACCINATION PROGRAM AGAINST TETANUS FOR ADULTS IS BEING PLANNED.

DIPHTHERIA SHOWED A NOTABLE REDUCTION WITH 22 CASES REPORTED FOR THE YEAR 1963, OR A REDUCTION OF 34 CASES FROM THE 1962 FIGURE.

THE FIVE POLIOMYELITIS CASES REPORTED FOR 1963 APPEARED BEFORE COMPLETION OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SABIN IMMUNIZATION IN CHILDREN LESS THAN FIVE YEARS OLD. AFTER COMPLETION OF THE IMMUNIZATION CAMPAIGN NO CASES HAVE BEEN REPORTED.

THERE WERE 82 CASES OF TETANUS; THE NUMBER OF DEATHS (47) DUE TO THIS DISEASE IS SLIGHTLY HIGHER THAN THE AVERAGE FOR THE FIVE YEAR PERIOD (1959-63, (43).

### VENEREAL DISEASES

THE NUMBER OF CASES REPORTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN 1963 DUE TO THESE MALADIES WERE 1,497 OF SYPHILIS AND 3,032 FOR OTHER VENEREAL DISEASES. OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES OF SYPHILIS INFORMED, 853 CORRESPONDED TO PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SYPHILIS WHICH REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF 169 OVER 1962 FIGURES. THE INCREASE OBSERVED HAS BEEN MAINLY AMONG ADOLESCENTS.

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PROVIDED CLINIC SERVICES IN PUBLIC HEALTH UNITS AND HEALTH CENTERS FOR THE DETECTION AND TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASE PATIENTS. ALSO ALL CONTACTS AND SUSPECT PERSONS WERE INVESTIGATED.

### DENGUE

A SEVERE OUTBREAK OF DENGUE OCCURRED IN 1963 WHICH AFFECTED A LARGE PART OF THE POPULATION. ALTHOUGH THE NUMBER OF CASES REPORTED REACHED 25,737 THERE IS REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ATTACKED WAS MUCH HIGHER. THIS OUTBREAK WAS STUDIED IN ORDER TO AUGMENT THE FACTS ALREADY KNOWN ABOUT THE DISEASE. THE





U. S, PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE AND THE WALTER REED ARMY RESEARCH INSTITUTE WERE ACTIVE COLLABORATORS. THE TYPE OF THIS DISEASE WHICH APPEARED IN PUERTO RICO CAUSED A VERY SLIGHT MORTALITY, HOWEVER, IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD IT HAS SHOWN HIGHER MORTALITY RATES.

WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT A CAMPAIGN IS BEING DEVELOPED WITH THE PURPOSE OF ERADICATING THE Aedes Aegypti MOSQUITO, VECTOR OF THE DISEASE, FROM ISLAND.

#### SCHISTOSOMIASIS

A LIMITED CONTROL PROGRAM AGAINST SCHISTOSOMIASIS IS MAINTAINED. THE STUDY AND USE OF METHODS FOR THE ERADICATION OF THE SNAIL HOST OF THE DISEASE IS CONTINUED. THE CONTROL WORK CONSIST OF THE INTRODUCTION OF A NATURAL ENEMY BESIDES APPLICATION OF SNAILCIDES; ALSO SUPERFICIAL DRAINAGE CONSTRUCTION IS MAINTAINED SO AS TO ELIMINATE IN BODIES OF WATER, THE SNAIL AUSTRALORBIS GLABRATUS, THE INTERMEDIATE HOST.





## TUBERCULOSIS

THE PROGRAM IS DIRECTED TO COMBAT TUBERCULOSIS IN PUERTO RICO MAINLY THROUGH DISCOVERY OF NEW CASES, MEDICAL CARE IN HOSPITALS OR OUT PATIENT CLINICS, AS THE CASE MAY REQUIRE. TO PERFORM THIS FUNCTION, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH HAS 19 TUBERCULOSIS CENTERS AND FIVE HOSPITALS WITH A TOTAL BED CAPACITY OF 1,850.

IN THE CASE FINDING ACTIVITIES ALL PERSONS OVER TWELVE YEARS OF AGE ARE EXAMINED IN THE TUBERCULOSIS CLINICS AND MOBILE X-RAY UNITS; ALSO TUBERCULOSIS TESTING OF CHILDREN UNDER TWELVE YEARS OF AGE IS DONE. ONCE A CASE IS DISCOVERED ALL CONTACTS AND SUSPECTS ARE EXAMINED TO LOCATE THE INITIAL CASE. ALL ACTIVE CASES ARE PUT UNDER DRUG THERAPY AND THOSE REQUIRING HOSPITAL TREATMENT ARE REFERRED TO ANY OF THE FIVE HOSPITALS; ACUTE CASES REQUIRING INTENSIVE SPECIALIZED TREATMENT OR CHEST SURGERY ARE REFERRED TO THE RUIZ SOLER HOSPITAL IN BAYAMÓN.

THROUGH REPORTS RECEIVED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, THERE WERE REGISTERED 1,864 NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS (ALL FORMS) IN 1963; OF WHICH 120 WERE NOTIFIED THROUGH DEATH CERTIFICATES. OF THE NEW CASES DISCOVERED, 1,585 SUFFERED FROM ACTIVE OR PROBABLY ACTIVE TUBERCULOSIS. THE RATE FOR ACTIVE CASES WAS 63.1 PER HUNDRED THOUSAND INHABITANTS, WHICH IS LOWER THAN THE RATE OF 67.7 FOR 1962.

A TOTAL OF 527 DEATHS WERE REPORTED FROM TUBERCULOSIS (ALL FORMS), WITH A RATE OF 21.0 PER HUNDRED THOUSAND IN HABITANTS, WHICH SHOWS A REDUCTION OF 2.7 OVER THE 23.7 RATE FOR 1962

THERE WERE 6,815 PATIENTS UNDER DRUG THERAPY IN THE TUBERCULOSIS CENTERS. THESE CENTERS MADE 152,024 PHOTOFLUOROGRAPHIES WHICH ADDED TO THE 64,083 MADE BY THE MOBILE UNITS AND THE 11,288 OF THE GENERAL ANTITUBERCULOSIS ASSOCIATION OF PUERTO RICO, GIVE AN IDEA OF THE PUBLIC RESPONSE TO THE COMBINED EFFORTS FOR CASE FINDING.

THE CENTERS ALSO TOOK 33,979 X-RAY PLATES AND KEPT IN THEIR FILES THE MEDICAL RECORD OF 35,703 PERSONS (NOT ALL SUFFERING THE DISEASE). THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS REACHED 379,678.

OF 23,805 TUBERCULIN TESTS APPLIED 21,637 WERE READ; OF THESE 3,025 SHOWED A POSITIVE REACTION.

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDED CONFERENCES TO PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL, ATTENDANCE AT MEDICAL MEETINGS, DEMONSTRATIONS AND CONSULTATION SERVICES.

THE P. R. GENERAL ANTITUBERCULOSIS ASSOCIATION LENT A VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION IN CARRYING OUT AN INTENSIVE EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN AND OPERATING A MOBILE UNIT FOR CASE FINDING PURPOSES.

### TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITALS

THE FIVE TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITALS LOCATED AT BAYAMON, CAYEY, GUAYAMA, MAYAGUEZ AND PONCE, WITH A CAPACITY FOR 1,850 BEDS, ADMITTED 1,694 CASES. THIS PATIENT LOAD REPRESENTED 510,944 PATIENT-DAYS, AND AN AVERAGE DAILY CENSUS OF 1,398 PATIENTS. THE BED UTILIZATION IN ALL HOSPITALS WAS 82.5%.

THE RUIZ SOLER HOSPITAL, IN BAYAMÓN, PROVIDED, BESIDES HOSPITALIZATION, CERTAIN SPECIALIZED SERVICES, TO THE OTHER TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITALS, SUCH AS SURGERY, OBSTETRICS AND AUTOPSIES.





DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
BUREAU OF HEALTH

PREVALENT COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CASES REPORTED TO THE  
HEALTH AND WELFARE REGIONS  
YEARS 1962 AND 1963

DISEASES	NORTH		NORTHEAST		SOUTH		EAST		WEST	
	1962	1963	1962	1963	1962	1963	1962	1963	1962	1963
SCHISTOSOMIASIS	1	0	54	83	89	18	345	231	2	1
GONORRHEA	142	138	1331	1702	761	513	354	359	274	315
VIRAL HEPATITIS	267	108	464	290	165	353	82	152	136	46
MUMPS	10	67	514	766	128	138	55	193	48	63
MEASLES	358	58	2146	292	913	963	1026	39	422	176
SYPHILIS	95	150	577	677	187	227	115	168	87	196
WHOOPING COUGH	42	23	211	84	254	519	151	71	18	51
CHICKENPOX	112	107	570	523	332	230	207	194	132	139





COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CASES REPORTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH DURING 1963 AND  
MORBIDITY RATES PER 100,000 POPULATION COMPARED TO 1962 AND THE  
FIVE YEAR MEDIAN 1958-62

DISEASES	CASES			MORBIDITY RATE		
	: MEDIAN FOR 5 :			: MEDIAN FOR 5 :		
	: YEAR PERIOD :			: YEAR PERIOD :		
	: 1963 :	: 1962 :	: 1958-62 :	: 1963 :	: 1962 :	: 1958-62 :
ALL CAUSES	38624	15727	13615	1536.8	640.6	587.2
BRUCELLOSIS	1	-	-	0.04	-	-
CHICKEN POX	1193	1353	607	47.5	55.1	26.6
DENGUE	25737	-	-	1024.0	-	-
DIPHTHERIA	15	56	58	0.6	2.3	2.3
DYSENTERY	13	42	17	0.5	1.7	1.0
GONORRHEA	3027	2863	3029	120.4	116.6	128.5
LEPROSY	7	3	1	0.3	0.1	0.04
LEPTOSPIROSIS	3	1	2	0.1	0.04	0.09
MALARIA	-	-	-	-	-	-
MENINGITIS (ASEPTIC)	-	12	5	-	0.5	0.2
MENINGOCOCCIC MENINGITIS	12	8	8	0.5	0.3	0.3
MEASLES	1528	4865	2331	60.8	198.2	100.6
MUMPS	1227	755	755	48.8	30.8	30.8
OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM**	-	-	-	0.01	-	-
POLIOMYELITIS	5	13	21	0.2	0.5	0.9
PUERPERAL FEVER*	-	-	-	-	-	-
RABIES (HUMAN)	-	-	-	-	-	-
RABIES (ANIMAL)	21	21	24	-	-	-
SCARLET FEVER	489	128	131	19.5	5.2	5.7
SHISTOSOMIASIS	333	494	746	12.8	20.1	31.7
SYPHILIS	1418	1061	1116	56.4	43.2	48.2
TETANUS	82	109	109	3.4	4.4	4.4
T.B. (ALL FORMS)	1693	1994	2137	67.4	81.2	90.8
TYPHUS (MURINE TYPE)	-	2	-	-	0.1	-
TYPHOID FEVER	17	18	22	0.7	0.7	0.9
VIRAL HEPATITIS	949	1114	792	37.8	45.4	33.7
WHOOPING COUGH	748	676	676	29.8	27.5	27.5
OTHER CAUSES	126	160	113	5.0	6.5	4.8

\* RATE PER 10,000 TOTAL BIRTHS

\*\* RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS

ALL OTHER RATES PER 100,000 POPULATION





## LONG-TERM DISEASES

### CANCER

THE MAIN FUNCTION OF THIS PROGRAM IS TO PROCURE EARLY DETECTION AND TREATMENT OF THE DISEASE. TO A GREAT EXTENT, THE PROGRAM IS DEPENDENT ON THE EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE COMMUNITY SO AS TO CREATE AWARENESS IN DETECTING EARLY SYMPTOMS OF THE DISEASE. ALSO, CONSULTATION SERVICES ARE PROVIDED TO PHYSICIANS AND THEY ARE KEPT TO DATE IN RELATION TO NEW DIAGNOSTIC AND TREATMENT TECHNIQUES. IN THIS ASPECT, THE LEAGUE AGAINST CANCER IN SAN JUAN AND THE FIGHT AGAINST CANCER IN PONCE, TWO NON PROFIT INSTITUTIONS, AS WELL AS OTHER PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC ENTITIES, LEND THEIR COOPERATION.

A REGISTRY IS MAINTAINED OF ALL CANCER CASES THROUGH WHICH 11,561 HAVE COME TO BE KNOWN. IN 1963 A TOTAL OF 3,776 NEW CASES WERE REGISTERED. EIGHTY FOUR PER CENT OF THE CASES WERE CONFIRMED BY LABORATORY.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS ARE BEING CARRIED OUT FOR THE DETECTION OF CANCER OF THE UTERUS, ESOPHAGUS AND STOMACH. AS A RESULT OF THE PROMOTION OF ACTIVITIES IN THE REGIONAL HOSPITALS AND THE SAN JUAN CITY HOSPITAL, FOR THE DETECTION OF PELVIC CANCER, 35,131 WOMEN WERE EXAMINED IN THE ISLAND DURING THIS FISCAL YEAR. THIS CASE LOAD REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF APPROXIMATELY 100% OVER LAST YEAR'S FIGURE. SEVEN OF EACH THOUSAND WOMEN EXAMINED GAVE A POSITIVE RESULT.

IN APRIL 1964, UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, A CLINIC FOR THE EARLY DETECTION OF CANCER OF THE ESOPHAGUS AND THE STOMACH, STARTED FUNCTIONING IN THE NORTHEAST REGION. AT THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR, 187 MEN HAD BEEN EXAMINED; 8 WERE FOUND TO BE SUFFERING THE DISEASE.

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE REGIONAL DENTAL DIRECTOR OF THE NORTH REGION, 3,800 PERSONS WERE EXAMINED FOR THE DETECTION OF ORAL CANCER.

THERE WERE SIX TUMOR CLINICS IN OPERATION DURING FISCAL YEAR 1963-64. THESE SERVICES WILL BE INCREASED DURING NEXT FISCAL YEAR. THE TUMOR CLINIC AT THE REGIONAL HOSPITAL SERVING THE SOUTH REGION WILL BE IN CHARGE OF A FULL-TIME SURGEON SPECIALIZED IN CANCER.

IN GENERAL, THE OBJECTIVE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO STRENGTHEN THE SERVICES RENDERED TO THE CANCER PATIENTS BY PHYSICIANS, NOT ONLY IN GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS BUT ALSO IN PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS.

THE TWO NON PROFIT CANCER INSTITUTIONS IN PUERTO RICO RECEIVED A TOTAL OF \$377,000 IN PAYMENT FOR SERVICES RENDERED TO NEEDY CANCER PATIENTS. THESE TWO HOSPITALS ADMITTED 2,300 NEW PATIENTS IN 1963 AND REGISTERED 22,236 VISITS IN THEIR OUTPATIENT CLINICS. MAIN SERVICE RENDERED WAS RADIOTHERAPY.

### HEART DISEASES

THIS PROGRAM IS SIMILAR TO THE CANCER PROGRAM IN THAT IT PROMOTES EARLY DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT, AND REHABILITATION OF THE PATIENT, THROUGH PROFESSIONAL AND PUBLIC EDUCATION. IT WORKS CLOSELY WITH THE PUERTO RICO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AND THE PUERTO RICO HEART ASSOCIATION.





THERE ARE IN OPERATION CARDIOLOGY CENTERS LOCATED AT EACH OF FIVE REGIONAL HOSPITALS, THE SAN JUAN CITY HOSPITALS AND THE MAYAGUEZ PUBLIC HEALTH UNIT. HEART SURGERY IS PERFORMED AT THE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL (NORTHEAST REGION).

THE CARDIO-PULMONARY LABORATORIES, WHICH ARE PART OF THE CARDIOLOGY CENTERS, PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE DIAGNOSIS AND EVALUATION OF CASES. THERE IS A SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR THE CONTROL OF RHEUMATIC FEVER.

DURING 1963-64 THERE WERE 3,613 NEW PATIENTS UNDER CARE.

#### DIABETES

THIS PROGRAM HAS BEEN INTENSIFIED SO AS TO DETERMINE FREQUENCY OF THE DISEASE, AS WELL AS ITS DIAGNOSIS, ITS PREVENTION AND/OR SUBSEQUENT REHABILITATION; STIMULATE THE DIABETES PATIENT TO USE AVAILABLE THERAPEUTIC SERVICES THUS PREVENTING COMPLICATIONS OF THE DISEASE.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE EDUCATION OF THE DIABETIC PATIENT AND HIS FAMILY WAS EMPHASIZED, FOR ALTHOUGH THE PHYSICIAN SUPERVISES THE TREATMENT, THE PATIENT MUST ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR HIS OWN CARE. THE EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES HELPED THE PATIENT TO ASSUME SUCH RESPONSIBILITY. ON A DEMONSTRATION BASIS, 4,020 PERSONS WERE EXAMINED, WITH 784 SHOWING A POSITIVE REACTION. BESIDES, THE QUANTITATIVE TEST WAS APPLIED TO 1,214 PERSONS REFERRED BY PHYSICIANS. IN CASE FINDING ACTIVITIES 241 PATIENTS WERE DISCOVERED AND 1,919 QUANTITATIVE TESTS WERE PERFORMED ON KNOWN DIABETES CASES.

#### NURSING HOMES

THE PROMOTION OF A BETTER CARE IN THE HOMES AND IN INSTITUTIONS FOR THE CHRONIC PATIENT AND THE ELDER CITIZEN IS THE MAIN FUNCTION OF THE NURSING HOMES PROGRAM. ASSISTANCE IS PROVIDED TO THE PERSONNEL IN CHARGE OF THESE INSTITUTIONS FOR IMPROVING MEDICAL CARE AND REHABILITATION. ACTIVITIES PLANNED ARE VARIED AND INCLUDE COORDINATION OF COMMUNITY EFFORT TOWARD OBTAINING DONATION OF EQUIPMENT AND MATERIAL; AS WELL AS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN PREPARING BUILDING PLANS AND IN PHYSICAL PLANT IMPROVEMENT. FOR THIS PURPOSE 162 VISITS TO NURSING HOMES AND ASYLUMS WERE MADE; AND 87 EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS WERE CARRIED OUT (DEMONSTRATIONS INCLUDED).





## MOTHER AND CHILD HEALTH

THE SERVICES RENDERED BY THIS PROGRAM ARE DIRECTED TO THE PRESERVATION OF LIFE AND THE MAINTENANCE OF MOTHERS AND CHILDREN IN GOOD HEALTH; ALSO TO THE CORRECTION OF PHYSICAL INCAPACITY IN CHILDREN. THESE SERVICES ARE RENDERED IN THE REGIONAL HOSPITALS, HEALTH CENTERS, PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE UNITS; IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HOSPITALS (THROUGH AGREEMENTS) AND IN CENTERS FOR THE ATTENTION OF MULTIPLE CONDITIONS IN CHILDREN.

### PRENATAL HEALTH

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT AROUND 60% OF THE MOTHERS IN PUERTO RICO RECEIVE SOME ATTENTION BEFORE CHILDBIRTH, EITHER IN PUBLIC OR PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS. THE ACTIVITIES IN REGARD TO PRENATAL CARE CONSIST IN MEDICAL SUPERVISION AND EDUCATION OF THE FUTURE MOTHER ON HER HEALTH, DIET AND CARE OF THE NEWBORN. THE MAIN PROBLEM IN PRENATAL CARE IS THE HIGH PROPORTION OF EXPECTANT MOTHERS WHO DO NOT RECEIVE SERVICE AND THOSE RECEIVING IT LATE IN THEIR PREGNANCY. THIS IS SPECIALLY TRUE IN MOTHERS RESIDENT IN THE RURAL ZONE. IN AN EFFORT TO FILL THIS NEED, SPECIAL PROGRAMS HAVE BEEN INITIATED IN THE SOUTH AND NORTHEAST REGION.

IN 1963 ONLY 40 WOMEN DIED AS A RESULT OF CHILDBIRTH. HEMORRHAGE WAS THE PRINCIPAL CAUSE OF DEATH AMONG MOTHERS IN THE AGE GROUP 31-35 YEARS.

### CHILDBIRTH CARE

IN 1963, 84% OF THE 76,569<sup>DELIVERIES</sup> IN PUERTO RICO OCCURRED IN HOSPITALS, AND 76% OF THE HOSPITAL DELIVERIES WERE TAKEN CARE AT PUBLIC HOSPITALS. THERE IS A GREAT NEED TO TRAIN PERSONNEL TO MEET THIS DEMAND, SPECIALLY IN THE MUNICIPAL HOSPITALS AND HEALTH CENTERS OF THE SMALLER MUNICIPALITIES. AT PRESENT, THERE IS IN OPERATION A NURSE MIDWIFERY SCHOOL IN RIO PIEDRAS AND ONE IS BEING PLANNED FOR PONCE.

AT THESE SCHOOLS NURSES ARE TRAINED WHO WILL EVENTUALLY BE IN CHARGE OF DELIVERY SERVICES IN THE HOSPITAL UNIT OF HEALTH CENTERS. IN FOUR COURSES ORGANIZED SINCE OCTOBER 1960, 43 MIDWIFE NURSES HAVE BEEN GRADUATED.

### POST-PARTUM SERVICES

THE PURPOSE OF THIS SERVICE IS TO RESTORE HEALTH TO ALL WOMEN AFTER CHILDBIRTH. THIS REQUIRES A COMPLETE MEDICAL EXAMINATION AND TREATMENT OF THOSE CONDITIONS REQUIRING ATTENTION. IN THE MEANWHILE THE MEDICAL SUPERVISION OF THE BABY STARTS.

### CHILD HEALTH

BECAUSE THE FIRST YEAR OF LIFE PRESENTS THE GREATEST RISK, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THE BABY RECEIVE INTENSIVE MEDICAL ATTENTION. DURING THIS PARTICULAR PERIOD, ATTENTION IS GIVEN TO FEEDING HABITS AND TO THE PROTECTION THROUGH INDICATED IMMUNIZATIONS FROM COMMUNICABLE DISEASES. THE DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH OF THE CHILD IS OBSERVED AND EFFORTS ARE MADE TO DETECT EARLY THOSE CONDITIONS THAT MAY BE CORRECTED.





## ATTENTION OF THE NEWBORN AND PREMATURE BABY

WITH THE PURPOSE OF IMPROVING THE EFFICACY OF THE CARE OF THE PREMATURE BABY, INCUBATORS AND SPECIAL EQUIPMENT HAVE BEEN PROVIDED IN REGIONAL HOSPITALS AND HEALTH CENTERS. WITH ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, A SPECIAL PROJECT WILL BE INITIATED IN THE NORTH REGION THROUGH WHICH NURSERIES WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR THE NEWBORN AND THE PREMATURE.

## PRESCHOOL HEALTH

SERVICES ARE PROVIDED TO CHILDREN BETWEEN 1 TO 6 YEARS OF AGE, THAT IS UNTIL THE CHILD IS READY TO ENTER SCHOOL. MAIN HEALTH PROBLEMS IN THIS AGE GROUP ARE MALNUTRITION AND COMMUNICABLE DISEASES; ALSO THE DANGER OF ACCIDENTS STARTS. MEDICAL SUPERVISION AT THIS TIME TENDS TO DISCOVER ANOMALIES TO CORRECT AND TREAT THEM; ALSO TO SEE THAT THE CHILD GROWS AND DEVELOPS NORMALLY. OF 62,331 CHILDREN ATTENDED IN THE CLINICS, 41,891 WERE FOUND TO BE IN GOOD HEALTH. THE OTHERS WERE REFERRED EITHER TO SPECIALIZED SERVICES OR TO ROUTINARY SERVICES SUCH AS: CHEST EXAMINATION, IMMUNIZATIONS, DENTAL AND ANTIHELMINTHIC TREATMENT, SIGHT AND HEARING TESTS AND LABORATORY ANALYSES SUCH AS BLOOD, URINE, FECES.

## SCHOOL HEALTH

THE MEDICAL SUPERVISION OF THE CHILD CONTINUES DURING HIS SCHOOL YEARS, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE TEACHER, BESIDES THAT OF THE PARENTS. IN THE SCHOOL HEALTH CARE PROGRAM EYE AND EAR DEFECTS WERE DETECTED. OF 91,921 CHILDREN EXAMINED, 40,335 SHOWED A CONDITION REQUIRING MEDICAL ATTENTION AND 31,525 WERE REFERRED TO SPECIALIZED SERVICES. THOSE CHILDREN WITH MENTAL OR PHYSICAL DEFECTS ARE REFERRED TO THE CRIPPLED CHILDREN PROGRAM.

## CRIPPLED CHILDREN SERVICES

THE PURPOSE OF THIS PROGRAM IS THE CORRECTION AND REHABILITATION OF THE CRIPPLED CHILD AS COMPLETELY AS ALLOWED BY AVAILABLE RESOURCES. AROUND 11,000 CHILDREN RECEIVED SERVICES DURING THIS YEAR. THESE SERVICES INCLUDE ORTHOPEDIC, PLASTIC, EYE, NEUROLOGICAL, NOSE-EAR-THROAT AND CARDIAC SURGERY; BESIDES SPEECH, OCCUPATIONAL AND PHYSICAL THERAPY. CHILDREN ARE SENT TO THE CONVALESCENT HOME TO GUARANTEE A PROPER POSTOPERATIVE TREATMENT WHEN THE PARENTS OR TUTORS CANNOT PROVIDE IT. ORTHOPEDIC AND PROSTHETIC APPLIANCES ARE PROVIDED FREE OF CHARGE.

## SERVICES TO THE MENTALLY RETARDED CHILD

THERE IS IN OPERATION AN ORIENTATION AND DIAGNOSTIC CENTER FOR THE MENTALLY RETARDED CHILD.

DURING THIS YEAR 73 CHILDREN WERE ADMITTED TO SERVICE AND THERE ARE 262 PENDING APPLICATIONS. THE LARGEST NUMBER OF ADMISSIONS FALL IN THE AGE GROUP FROM THREE TO SEVEN YEARS, WHICH INDICATES THAT OUR EFFORTS MUST BE DIRECTED TO THE CASE FINDING IN THE AGE GROUP FROM BIRTH TO THREE YEARS BECAUSE THE EARLIER THE TREATMENT STARTS THE BETTER RESULTS ARE OBTAINED.

MONGOLISM OCCUPIES FIRST PLACE IN THE DIAGNOSES, FOLLOWING PREMATUREITY AND THE ENCEPHALOPATHIES ASSOCIATED WITH NUTRITION AND GROWTH ANOMALIES.

SERVICES AT PRESENT ARE LIMITED, BUT AS MORE PERSONNEL IS TRAINED, EXPANSION WILL BE MADE TO COVER THE PONCE, ARECIBO AND FAJARDO REGIONS.



## DENTAL HEALTH

PREVENTIVE AND RESTORATIVE SERVICES ARE PROVIDED TO THE SCHOOL CHILD UNDER THIS PROGRAM, EFFORTS BEING MAINLY CONCENTRATED IN THIRD GRADE STUDENTS SO AS TO ASSURE OPTIMUM DENTAL HEALTH IN THAT GROUP. EMERGENCY SERVICES ARE PROVIDED TO CHILDREN IN OTHER GRADES AND NEEDY PERSONS.

AT PRESENT THE NUMBER OF DENTISTS DO NOT EVEN BEGIN TO COVER THE DENTAL NEEDS IN OUR POPULATION.

WHILE STUDIES MADE IN SCHOOL CHILDREN POINT TOWARDS A REDUCTION IN THE INCIDENCE OF DENTAL CARIES DUE TO THE ADDITION OF FLUORIDE SALTS TO THE WATER SUPPLIES (A PREVENTIVE MEASURE STARTED IN 1953-54), THE PROBLEM IS STILL AN ACUTE ONE. THE RESULTS OF A STUDY CARRIED OUT IN THE NORTHEAST REGION TO VERIFY THE RESULTS OF THIS PREVENTIVE MEASURE AGAINST DENTAL CARIES WILL BE PUBLISHED AT A LATER DATE.

AT THE DENTAL CLINICS HELD IN HEALTH CENTERS AND PUBLIC HEALTH UNITS THERE WERE RECORDED A TOTAL OF 134,980 VISITS, WITH A TOTAL OF 327,922 OPERATIONS PERFORMED. THE LARGER NUMBER OF PATIENTS SERVICED WERE SCHOOL CHILDREN WHO MADE 92,438 VISITS. THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF OPERATIONS PER VISIT WAS 2.46; WITH 12,844 CASES TERMINATED.





## MENTAL HEALTH

THIS PROGRAM IS DIRECTED TOWARDS THE PRIMARY AND SECONDARY PREVENTION OF MENTAL DISEASES; DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF THE MENTAL PATIENT UNTIL HIS REHABILITATION; AND TO CONFINEMENT OF THOSE MENTAL PATIENTS WITH A POOR PROGNOSIS.

PRIMARY PREVENTIVE WORK CONSIST MAINLY IN EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND THE ORIENTATION OF PROFESSIONALS ON NEW IDEAS AND TECHNIQUES IN THE FIELD OF MENTAL HEALTH. IN GENERAL TERMS, IT IS BELIEVED THAT GOOD FAMILY AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS CAN PREVENT MENTAL DISEASE.

SECONDARY PREVENTIVE WORK ASSUMES THAT EARLY DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF THE MENTAL PATIENT HELP IN STAYING PROGRESSIVE DETERIORATION AND THAT THE PATIENT CAN BE REHABILITATED TOWARDS LIVING A PRODUCTIVE LIFE.

THE MENTAL PATIENT WHO DOES NOT RESPOND TO MODERN PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT, IS HOSPITALIZED IN ORDER TO SAFEGUARD THE WELFARE OF THE COMMUNITY. FOR THIS PURPOSE THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH OPERATES TWO PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS, ONE IN RIO PIEDRAS WITH A CAPACITY OF 1,800 BEDS, AND ANOTHER ONE IN PONCE WITH A BED CAPACITY OF 400. THE RIO PIEDRAS HOSPITAL SERVES ALSO AS THE TEACHING AND RESEARCH CENTER, IN CO-ORDINATION WITH THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS, NURSES AND OTHER PARAMEDICAL PERSONNEL.

THESE TWO HOSPITALS REGISTERED 4,583 ADMISSIONS. AVERAGE DAILY CENSUS WAS 1,763 PATIENTS AND TOTAL PATIENT-DAYS REACHED 645,323, THAT IS, 33,279 MORE PATIENT DAYS WHEN COMPARED WITH LAST YEAR'S FIGURE. THE UTILIZATION OF BEDS FOR BOTH INSTITUTIONS WAS 93.7 WITH AN AVERAGE STAY IN RIO PIEDRAS OF 154 DAYS AND 136 DAYS IN PONCE.

THE OUT PATIENT CLINICS AT RIO PIEDRAS REGISTERED 44,836 PATIENT VISITS AND PONCE, 16,738.

AMBULATORY SERVICES FOR THE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT USING CHEMOTHERAPY AND PSYCHOTHERAPY ARE MAINTAINED IN LIMITED FORM. THESE SERVICES ARE RENDERED IN 15 MUNICIPALITIES AND IN FISCAL YEAR 1963-64 A TOTAL OF 7,836 ADULT PATIENTS BENEFITED FROM THESE CLINIC SERVICES. AT THESE CLINICS, 41,471 INTERVIEWS WERE HELD. AROUND 67% OF THE PATIENTS ATTENDED HAVE A DIAGNOSES OF NEUROSES AND SCHIZOPHRENIA; AND IT IS PRECISELY THIS TYPE OF PATIENT WHO DEMANDS THE GREATEST ATTENTION FROM THE PSYCHIATRIST.

THE RIO PIEDRAS HOSPITAL MAINTAINS A 24 HOUR SPECIAL INTENSIVE TREATMENT SERVICE FOR THOSE PATIENTS REQUIRING IT.

A SPECIAL PROGRAM HAS BEEN ORGANIZED FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE ALCOHOLIC AND THE DRUG ADDICTION PATIENT. ADDICTION IS CONSIDERED AS A SYMPTOM OF A BASIC MENTAL AFFLICTION AND IT IS BY TREATING THIS CONDITION THAT ADDICTION IS BETTER CONTROLLED.

A TOTAL OF 650 PERSONS WERE CARED FOR IN THE ALCOHOLIC CLINIC. BESIDES, AN INTENSIVE EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN IN THE COMMUNITY WITH THE PURPOSE OF AROUSING PUBLIC CONSCIOUSNESS IN THE SENSE THAT ALCOHOLISM IS A DISEASE AND, THAT THEREFORE, IT CONSTITUTES A PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEM. THIS CAMPAIGN INCLUDES CONFERENCES, FILM EXHIBITIONS AND DISTRIBUTION OF READING MATERIAL.





IN THE DRUG ADDICTION CLINIC, SERVICE WAS GIVEN TO 675 PATIENTS. A LARGE NUMBER OF THESE PATIENTS SUFFER FROM PSYTOPATHIC PERSONALITY DISTURBANCES. TREATMENT OFFERED IS DIRECTED TOWARDS ESTABLISHING COMMUNICATION WITH THE PATIENT FOR HIS ACCEPTANCE OF THE TREATMENT, WHICH INCLUDES TRANQUILIZERS AND APPLICATION OF PSYCHIATRIC TECHNIQUES. A PROJECT WAS INITIATED TO EVALUATE THE FINAL EFFECT OF THE TREATMENT IN THE PATIENT UPON HIS RETURN TO THE COMMUNITY AND TO DETERMINE WITH MORE ACCURACY THE NUMBER OF REHABILITATED PATIENTS.

THROUGH THE FORENSIC AND PENAL PROGRAM ASSISTANCE IS RENDERED TO THE COURTS OF JUSTICE IN THE CASE OF ACCUSED PERSONS WHO PRESENT A MENTAL PROBLEM, THROUGH EVALUATION, HOSPITALIZATION AND TREATMENT, AS WELL AS IN THE ULTIMATE DISPOSITION OF THE CASE. IT ALSO PROVIDES EXPERT WITNESSES IN THE COURTS. AMONG IMPORTANT ACHIEVEMENTS REACHED IT IS WORTH MENTIONING THE MARKED REDUCTION IN THE PROBLEMS PRESENTED BY INMATES SUFFERING FROM A MENTAL CONDITION IN THE JAILS OF THE ISLAND. THE COORDINATION AND COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE PERSONNEL IN THIS PROGRAM AND THAT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IS VERY EFFECTIVE. IN ALL 285 CASES HAVE BEEN EVALUATED BY THE FORENSIC COMMITTEE DURING THIS FISCAL YEAR AND EXPERT WITNESS ASSISTANCE WAS PROVIDED IN 378 CASES. SEVENTY COURT CASES HAVE BEEN DECIDED WITH A FINDING OF INSANITY. A TOTAL OF 90 INMATES OF THE STATE PENITENTIARY ARE UNDER PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT THROUGH THE OUTPATIENT CLINIC SERVICE.

THOSE PATIENTS ABOVE 65 YEARS OF AGE ARE RECEIVING SPECIAL ATTENTION THROUGH ACTIVITIES INITIATED IN JANUARY 1964. THERE ARE 283 SUCH PATIENTS UNDER CARE. HOSPITALIZATION IS PROVIDED WHENEVER THE CASE REQUIRES IT, BUT TREATMENT IS DIRECTED MAINLY TOWARDS THE RETENTION OF THE PATIENT AT HIS OWN HOME OR IN FOSTER HOMES, WITH THE PROVISION OF RECREATION, REHABILITATION AND TREATMENT SERVICES. AT PRESENT THERE ARE TWO FOSTER HOMES PAID BY RELATIVES OF THE PATIENTS.

THE PEDIATRIC SERVICE AT RIO PIEDRAS INCLUDES A SPECIAL CLINIC FOR THE MENTALLY RETARDED CHILD WITH A BEHAVIOR PROBLEM. A TOTAL OF 3,617 NEW CASES CAME TO THESE CLINICS. AT THE PSYCHOLOGY CLINIC UNIT 1,273 EXAMINATIONS WERE PERFORMED ON 876 PATIENTS; OF THESE, 82% SHOWED SOME DEGREE OF MENTAL RETARDATION. THE NEUROLOGY UNIT TOOK CARE OF THE CHILDREN NEEDING NEUROLOGICAL EVALUATION. CHILDREN WITH A CHRONIC CEREBRAL SYNDROME WERE REFERRED TO THE DIFFERENT CLINICS FOR EPILEPSY, MONGOLISM, MENTAL DEFICIENCIES AND CONGENITAL ANOMALIES.

THE SCHOOL FOR MENTALLY RETARDED CHILDREN HAS BEEN IN OPERATION FOR THE LAST FOUR YEARS. THERE WERE FIVE TEACHERS IN THE STAFF FOR AN ENROLLMENT OF 67 CHILDREN. A RECREATIONAL THERAPIST HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO THE SCHOOL. PARENTS PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE ACTIVITIES PREPARED FOR THE CHILDREN AND THEY COOPERATE VERY CLOSELY.

IN COLLABORATION WITH THE DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION REHABILITATION SERVICES ARE PROVIDED TO IN-PATIENTS AND OUT PATIENTS AS WELL.

THE MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM HAS DEVELOPED A VAST EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM FOR PHYSICIANS, NURSES, SOCIAL WORKERS, PSYCHOLOGISTS AT GRADUATE AND POSTGRADUATE LEVEL. EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR AUXILIARY PERSONNEL AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC ARE ALSO CARRIED ON CONTINUOUSLY.



## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

THE PROGRAMS CONDUCTED TO CONTROL ALL FACTORS THAT MAY AFFECT THE HEALTH OF THE COMMUNITY AND TO OBSERVE THAT SANITARY CONDITIONS ARE MAINTAINED WITHIN ESTABLISHED SATISFACTORY STANDARDS, COMPRISE: SANITATION OF WATER SUPPLIES, SEWERS, FOOD AND RESTAURANTS; PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS; IMPROVEMENT OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH; VECTOR ERADICATION; PREVENTION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION; AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE DRUG AND PHARMACY ACT.

### WATER

THE MAIN PROBLEM IN WATER SUPPLY, AS RELATED TO QUANTITY AND QUALITY, IS MAINLY CONCENTRATED IN THE RURAL ZONE. ACTUALLY THERE IS NO PROBLEM WITH THE POTABLE WATER SUPPLIED TO THE URBAN ZONE. THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN COLLABORATION WITH THE AQUE-DUCT AND SEWER AUTHORITY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DRINKING WATER FULFILING PREDETER-MINED STANDARDS AND THAT THE WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM OPERATES PROPERLY AND IS MAIN-TAINED IN SATISFACTORY CONDITIONS.

THIS YEAR 21 PROJECTS WERE APPROVED FOR NEW RURAL WATER SUPPLIES AND TWO FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF EXISTING ONES.

### WASTE DISPOSAL

HUMAN: AS THE URBAN ZONE IS PROVIDED WITH SEWER SYSTEMS THE PROBLEM CONSISTS IN PROMOTING THE CONNECTION BY THE PRIVATE CITIZENS. IN THE RURAL ZONE THERE IS AN ACUTE PROBLEM OF SOIL CONTAMINATION. AS A RESULT OF 6,808 INSPECTIONS IT HAS BEEN OBSERVED THAT A LARGE NUMBER OF THE RURAL DWELLINGS DO NOT HAVE A SANITARY PRIVY OR THE ONE IN USE IS IN VERY POOR CONDITION. THE SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM REQUIRES AN INTENSIVE EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF LATRINES. DURING THIS YEAR 3,516 COMPLETE UNITS WERE DISTRIBUTED.

FOUR PROJECTS SUBMITTED BY THE AQUEDUCT AND SEWER AUTHORITY TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WERE APPROVED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF SEWER SYSTEMS IN THE URBAN ZONE.

INDUSTRIAL WASTES: MAIN PROBLEM IS CAUSED BY THE DISCHARGE OF SUGAR MILLS, RUM DISTILLERIES AND CERTAIN RELATED INDUSTRIES. DURING THIS YEAR FIVE SYSTEMS FOR THE ELIMINATION OF INDUSTRIAL WASTES WERE STUDIED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH. IN EACH CASE A THOROUGH EVALUATION WAS MADE TO DETERMINE THE BEST METHOD FOR TREATING AND DISPOSING OF THE WASTE.

### WATER POLLUTION

CONTAMINATION OF WATER IS PRINCIPALLY CAUSED BY HUMAN, INDUSTRIAL WASTES; AND ALSO BY THE INFESTATION OF THE RIVERS BY THE SNAIL AUSTRALORBIS GLABRATUS, THE INTER-MEDIATE HOST OF SCHISTOSOMIASIS. WITH THE PURPOSE OF MAINTAINING WATER SUPPLIES WITHIN DESIRABLE STANDARDS, STUDIES ARE CONDUCTED TO CONTROL CONTAMINATION DISCHARGES AND TO ADOPT MEASURES SO AS TO AVOID FUTURE CONTAMINATION DISCHARGES. THREE SUCH STUDIES WERE COMPLETED: RIO GRANDE (LOIZA), RIO PIEDRAS AND RIO GUAYNABO. A STUDY WAS INITIATED OF THE MEDIANIA ALTA BASIN AND A PROPOSAL HAS BEEN MADE BY THE PUERTO RICO AQUEDUCT AND SEWER AUTHORITY TO MAKE A SANITARY SURVEY OF THE SAN JUAN AND MAYAGUEZ BAYS; AND WITH THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND MECHANICAL ARTS TO MAKE A SURVEY IN FOUR RIVERS IN MAYAGUEZ.





## FOOD

THE ACTIVITIES OF THIS PROGRAM COMPRISE THE SANITARY INSPECTION OF MILK, MEAT, FOOD FACTORIES AND OF ALL PLACES WHERE FOOD IS PROCESSED AND SOLD FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION. IN ORDER TO AVOID THE TRANSMISSION OF DISEASES, MOSTLY THE ENTERIC TYPE, THE PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD PRODUCTS IS SUPERVISED BY LOCAL SANITATION PERSONNEL. SMALL RESTAURANTS WHOSE OWNERS DO NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT MEANS TO ACQUIRE MODERN EQUIPMENT PRESENT THE MOST ACUTE SANITARY PROBLEMS. ANOTHER PROBLEM IS THE LACK OF KNOWLEDGE OF HYGIENE MEASURES ON THE PART OF FOODHANDLERS. TO MEET THIS NEED 32 SHORT COURSES WERE OFFERED ON FOODHANDLING WITH AN ATTENDANCE OF 600 PERSONS. HOTELS, RESTAURANTS AND OTHER SIMILAR ESTABLISHMENTS WERE INSPECTED WITH THE PURPOSE OF MAINTAINING THEM IN SATISFACTORY SANITARY CONDITIONS. A TOTAL OF 72,085 INSPECTION VISITS WERE MADE TO THESE ESTABLISHMENTS BESIDES 2,540 MADE TO FOOD PROCESSING FACTORIES, 25,005 TO BOARDING HOUSES AND 2,533 TO PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IS HIGHLY INTERESTED IN IMPROVING SANITARY CONDITIONS IN SLAUGHTERHOUSES SO THAT MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS CONSUMED BE IN THE BEST CONDITIONS AND TO PREVENT TRANSMITTING CATTLE DISEASES TO HUMANS. AN EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN ON MEAT INSPECTION AND SANITATION IS MAINTAINED NOT ONLY FOR SANITATION PERSONNEL BUT ALSO FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE SLAUGHTERHOUSES. A TOTAL OF 48 MILLION POUNDS OF MEAT WERE INSPECTED AND AROUND 2 MILLION POUNDS DESTROYED AS FOUND UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION. AT PRESENT THERE ARE 62 MUNICIPAL AND 8 PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

## MILK

WITHIN AVAILABLE RESOURCES WE TRY TO COMBAT MILK ADULTERATION AND CONSUMPTION OF POOR QUALITY MILK DUE TO HIGH BACTERIAL CONTENT AND ANTIBIOTICS. WE NEED TO INCREASE THE COORDINATION BETWEEN THE PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE WHICH STIMULATES A GREATER PRODUCTION AND THAT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH WHICH CALLS FOR IMPROVEMENT IN QUALITY; IT IS ALSO NECESSARY TO INCREASE SUPERVISORY SANITATION PERSONNEL.

THE NEW MILK REGULATION DRAFTED LAST FISCAL YEAR WAS SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FOR REVISION. THIS REGULATION DEALS WITH THE PRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION, HANDLING, PASTERIZATION, SALE OR DONATION OF MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS. DURING THESE LAST YEARS A NOTABLE PROGRESS HAS BEEN OBSERVED IN THE PRODUCTION OF MILK OF GOOD QUALITY DUE TO THE GOOD DISPOSITION OF INDIVIDUALS IN DAIRY BUSINESS TO ACCEPT TECHNICAL ADVICE AND TRAINING FROM SANITATION OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES IN RELATION TO MODERN PROCEDURES AND METHODS USED IN THE MILK INDUSTRY. SANITATION INSPECTORS MADE 6,445 VISITS TO THE 817 DAIRIES (758 ARE FIRST CLASS DAIRIES) AND TOOK 15,479 MILK SAMPLES FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL AND CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

## RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH

THIS PROGRAM IS DIRECTED TOWARDS THE REDUCTION TO THE LOWEST POSSIBLE MINIMUM THE DANGER OF RADIATION TO HUMANS. TECHNICAL PERSONNEL INSPECTED SEVERAL X-RAY INSTALLATIONS AT MEDICAL AND DENTAL OFFICES.

AIR, MILK, AND VEGETATION SAMPLES TAKEN ARE SENT FOR ANALYSIS TO THE LABORATORIES OF THE U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE AND RESULTS INDICATE THE DEGREE OF CONTAMINATION DUE TO RADIOACTIVE FALLOUT, AS WELL AS NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS OR ESTABLISHMENTS WHERE RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL IS USED. THE NUMBER OF SAMPLES COLLECTED DURING THIS FISCAL YEAR WAS AS FOLLOWS: 52 RAW AND PASTEURIZED MILK, 40 AIR, 36 VEGETATION AND 11 WATER. FOR THOSE CASES IN WHICH THERE IS AN ESTABLISHED STANDARD, THE CONCENTRATIONS WERE FOUND TO BE WITHIN PERMISSIBLE LIMITS. ALSO, 581 INSPECTIONS TO





RADIOLOGICAL INSTALLATIONS WERE MADE. THE MOST COMMON DEFICIENCIES FOUND REQUIRED IMPROVEMENT IN THE OPERATION OF EQUIPMENT AS STIPULATED BY THE FACTORY INSTRUCTIONS, USE OF APPROPRIATE ACCESSORY EQUIPMENT, ADEQUATE TRAINING OF TECHNICAL PERSONNEL AS TO OBSERVANCE OF SAFE RADIOLOGICAL PROCEDURES. IN EACH CASE A REPORT WAS SUBMITTED AND READING MATERIAL WAS ENCLOSED RELATIVE TO CORRECTION OF DEFICIENCIES FOUND.

AN INTENSIVE TRAINING PROGRAM WAS CARRIED OUT FOR PERSONNEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND OTHER AGENCIES. A TOTAL OF 1,400 COPIES OF EDUCATIONAL PAMPHLETS WAS DISTRIBUTED.

#### AIR CONTAMINATION

THROUGH THIS PROGRAM WE TRY TO FIGHT THE PROBLEM CAUSED BY CONTAMINANTS AGENTS IN THE AIR, SUCH AS DUST, SMOKE, FUMES AND OTHER PRODUCTS DISCHARGED MAINLY BY INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS AND MOTOR VEHICLES. WORK PERFORMED IN THIS PROGRAM INCLUDED ATTENTION TO 37 COMPLAINTS; 76 AIR SAMPLES WERE TAKEN; AND 17 TECHNICAL STUDIES WERE DONE FOR INDUSTRIES TO BE ESTABLISHED IN THE ISLAND.

#### OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

ACTIVITIES IN THIS FIELD COMPRISE THE SURVEY OF HEALTH RISKS IN THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT OF WORKING PLACES; PRODUCTS TO BE PROCESSED; RAW MATERIAL; AND PROMOTION OF ADOPTION OF HEALTH MEASURES TO AVOID DISEASE. OBSERVATION IS MADE OF MEASURES ADOPTED BY MANAGEMENT TO PROVIDE FIRST AID SERVICES AND MEDICAL ATTENTION TO EMPLOYEES AND LABORERS; NECESSARY IMPROVEMENT IS STIMULATED WHERE THE FACILITIES ARE FOUND TO BE INADEQUATE. A TOTAL OF 620 INSPECTION VISITS WERE MADE TO INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS WITH AN ENROLLMENT OF 22,370 EMPLOYEES.

THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ADOPTION OF WORK ACCIDENT PREVENTION REGULATIONS.

#### ACCIDENT PREVENTION

THE BASIC FUNCTION OF THIS SERVICE IS THE PROMOTION OF SAFETY PRACTICES, AT HOME AND AT WORK, SO AS TO PREVENT ACCIDENTS. AT STATE LEVEL THE PROGRAM IS BEING INTEGRATED WITH THAT OF THE ACCIDENT PREVENTION BUREAU OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR IN ORDER TO COORDINATE INSPECTION WORK.

DURING 1963-64 THERE WERE 22 INSPECTIONS MADE TO PLACES OF WORK; 28 MEETINGS OF AN EDUCATIONAL NATURE WERE HELD AND FOUR SAFETY COMMITTEES WERE ORGANIZED; 26 REPORTS WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CORRECTION OF HAZARDS FOUND IN THE INSTITUTIONS; 67 TALKS WERE GIVEN FOLLOWED BY A FILM SHOWING RELATIVE TO HOME ACCIDENT PREVENTION. THE NATIONAL WEEK FOR THE PREVENTION OF POISONINGS WAS CELEBRATED, IN COORDINATION WITH THE MEDICAL CONSULTANT ON POISON CONTROL ASSIGNED TO THE DIVISION OF MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH AND CRIPPLED CHILDREN. A TOTAL OF 6,015 LEAFLETS WERE DISTRIBUTED.

#### VECTOR CONTROL

THE ACTIVITIES OF THIS PROGRAM ARE DIRECTED TOWARDS THE STUDY AND CREATION OF PREVENTIVE METHODS FOR THE ERADICATION OF THE SNAIL HOST OF SCHISTOSOMIASIS AND SOIL SANITATION; ELIMINATION OF INSECTS AND RATS IN THE DEPENDENCIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH; PEST MOSQUITO CONTROL AND ERADICATION OF THE Aedes Aegypti.



FOR THE EXTERMINATION OF THE SNAIL HOST OF SCHISTOSOMIASIS, WORK WAS CARRIED OUT IN 22 URBAN LOCALITIES AND 17 RURAL LOCALITIES. A TOTAL OF 244,037 HOUSES WERE INSPECTED AND TREATED OF WHICH 19,960 WERE FOUND TO BE AEDES BREEDING SITES. DURING 1964-65 AN ERADICATION CAMPAIGN WILL BE STARTED WITH THE AIM OF THE TOTAL EXTERMINATION OF THE MOSQUITO AEDES. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THIS JOB WILL BE COMPLETED IN FIVE YEARS.

#### LICENSING AND SUPERVISION OF PHARMACIES

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN COLLABORATION WITH THE FOOD AND DRUG DIVISION OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS TO WATCH THAT ALL PHARMACIES AND MEDICINAL PRODUCTION LABORATORIES COMPLY WITH THE LAW AND REGULATIONS IN FORCE THAT REQUIRE THAT WORK BE PERFORMED BY SPECIALIZED PROFESSIONALS AND THAT SALE OF RESTRICTED DRUGS IS BY MEDICAL PRESCRIPTION ONLY. THERE ARE 1,034 LICENSED PHARMACIES IN THE ISLAND. 207 PERIODIC INSPECTION VISITS AND 140 REINSPECTIONS WERE MADE TO THESE ESTABLISHMENTS TO VERIFY COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS IN FORCE.

#### MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IS OFFERED TO MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES FOR THE CORRECTION OF SANITARY PROBLEMS IN DEPENDENCIES SUCH AS MARKETS, SLAUGHTERHOUSES, CEMETERIES, JAILS AND SERVICES SUCH AS GARBAGE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL AND SLUM AREAS. UPON REQUEST OF THE PLANNING BOARD STUDIES ARE MADE OF THE LAND TO BE USED IN URBAN AND RURAL HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS. COMPLAINTS ON SANITATION PROBLEMS RECEIVED FROM THE COMMUNITY ARE GIVEN ATTENTION AND DETERMINATION IS MADE OF PLACEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR CORRECTIVE MEASURES RECOMMENDED. THIS YEAR 11,693 COMPLAINTS WERE INVESTIGATED.

FOR THE PLANNING BOARD A TOTAL OF 195 HOUSING PROJECTS WERE STUDIED AND REVISED; THIS TASK INVOLVES A LAND SURVEY, APPROVAL OF PLANS AND TECHNICAL ADVICE.

FOR THE URBAN RENEWAL AND PUBLIC HOUSING CORPORATION 21 PLANS WERE REVIEWED.





## NUTRITION AND DIETETICS

GOOD NUTRITION, GENERALLY SPEAKING, DEPENDS ON THE ECONOMIC CONDITIONS OF THE COUNTRY. MALNUTRITION PREVAILS IN THOSE AREAS WHERE ECONOMIC RESOURCES OF THE CITIZENS ARE NOT SUFFICIENT TO PURCHASE BASIC FOOD. HOWEVER, GOOD NUTRITION IS POSSIBLE WITHIN A MODEST INCOME; AND SIMILARLY, THERE CAN BE MALNUTRITION IN SPITE OF A GOOD INCOME.

THIS PROGRAM IS DIRECTED TOWARDS THE EDUCATION OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC ON HOW TO MEET FOOD NEEDS UNDER LIMITED ECONOMIC CONDITIONS. IT ALSO SUPERVISES THE MILK DISTRIBUTION FOR INFANTS AND PRESCHOOLERS AMONG FAMILIES OF LOW INCOME; AND ALSO THE DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD DONATED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FOR LOW INCOME FAMILIES. IT ALSO ESTABLISHES STANDARDS AND SUPERVISES THE OPERATION OF THE DIET DEPARTMENTS IN HEALTH CENTERS, HOSPITALS AND PUBLIC WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

THROUGH THE PUERTO RICO NUTRITION COMMITTEE IT COLLABORATES WITH OTHER AGENCIES IN AN ISLAND-WIDE NUTRITION PROGRAM.

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF TRAINING, WAS THE ORGANIZATION OF A TRAINING CENTER FOR NUTRITION EDUCATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO, SPECIALLY FOR LATIN AMERICAN STUDENTS. THIS CENTER WAS ORGANIZED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND THE UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THREE INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES. THE RESULTS OF THE THREE-MONTH COURSE WERE SO PROMISING THAT IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE COURSE WILL BE DEFINITELY ESTABLISHED IN PUERTO RICO.

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION WAS TAKEN IN THE NUTRITION COURSES OFFERED AS PART OF THE STUDIES LEADING TO THE MASTER'S DEGREE IN PUBLIC HEALTH IN THE UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO. PLANS ARE WELL UNDER WAY TO ESTABLISH A MASTER'S DEGREE IN NUTRITION.

IN 46 NUTRITION CLINICS, 102 PATIENTS WERE SERVED; A DIETETIC EVALUATION WAS MADE OF EACH CASE AND ORIENTATION GIVEN AS TO THE ADEQUATE DIET TO BE FOLLOWED.

PERSONNEL OF THE PROGRAM PARTICIPATED IN MEDICO-NUTRITIONAL STUDIES CARRIED OUT IN ISOLATED COMMUNITIES, AS WELL AS IN STUDIES OF FEEDING PLANS FOR INDUSTRIAL WORKERS.

THE RESULTS OBTAINED WITH THE NEW PROCEDURES ADOPTED IN THE MILK STATION PROGRAM HAVE BEEN VERY EFFECTIVE. THE ENROLLMENT OF THIS PROGRAM HAS BEEN LIMITED TO CHILDREN ONLY, SINCE LACTATING AND PREGNANT MOTHERS BENEFIT FROM THE FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM.





## HEALTH LABORATORIES

PUBLIC HEALTH AND MODERN MEDICAL CARE DEPEND ON THE LABORATORY TO DETERMINE: QUALITY OF WATER AND MILK; CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER TO DETERMINE DEGREE OF CONTAMINATION; QUALITY OF FOOD; AND, FOR THE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF DISEASES.

THE INSTITUTE OF LABORATORIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH HAS VARIED FUNCTIONS. BESIDES PROVIDING LABORATORY SERVICES IT SUPERVISES THE WORK PERFORMED BY OTHER LABORATORY UNITS OF THE DEPENDENCIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND THROUGH THE LICENSING PROGRAM, IT SUPERVISES OTHER GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE LABORATORIES.

A TOTAL OF 2,157,070 TESTS WERE PERFORMED BY ALL LABORATORIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH; THIS FIGURE REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF 258,101 TESTS OVER LAST YEAR'S NUMBER.

THE TRAINING PHASE OF TECHNICAL PERSONNEL OF THE PROGRAM CONTINUES WITH THE SAME EMPHASIS AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS. THE SCHOOL FOR LABORATORY TECHNOLOGISTS HAS BEEN OPERATING FOR THE LAST THIRTEEN YEARS AND HAS GRADUATED 93 PERSONS, OR AN AVERAGE OF SEVEN TECHNOLOGISTS PER YEAR. THE ELEVEN STUDENTS OF THE 1963-64 CLASS HAVE A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN SCIENCE AND SEVEN WERE GRANTED A SCHOLARSHIP BY THE OFFICE OF PERSONNEL. SEVERAL WORK SHOPS WERE CONDUCTED, FIVE OF THEM DIRECTED BY PERSONNEL FROM THE COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CENTER, IN ATLANTA, GEORGIA.

LEGISLATION APPROVED THIS YEAR PROVIDED FOR THE LICENSING OF BLOOD BANKS. THERE ARE 22 BLOOD BANKS IN THE ISLAND, EIGHT OF THOSE, UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, ARE LOCATED: ONE IN EACH REGIONAL HOSPITAL, ONE IN THE HEALTH CENTERS AT HUMACAO AND GUAYAMA, AND ANOTHER ONE IN THE TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL DR. RUIZ SOLER, AT BAYAMÓN. THE BLOOD BANK OPERATED BY THE AMERICAN RED CROSS IS THE CHIEF PROVIDER OF BLOOD; IT SUPPLIED 11,183 PINTS OF BLOOD DURING THIS YEAR.



## HEALTH EDUCATION

HEALTH CONDITIONS OF A COUNTRY DEPEND LARGELY UPON THE EFFORTS MADE BY THE PRIVATE CITIZEN FOR HIS OWN HEALTH. IT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAM TO CARRY ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE TO THE COMMUNITY AND STIMULATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY INTEREST IN HEALTH PRACTICES.

EVERY HEALTH WORKER IS CONSIDERED AN EDUCATOR; BUT THE SPECIALIST IN HEALTH EDUCATION IS A SKILLED EDUCATOR TRAINED IN THE EDUCATION METHODOLOGY IN THE FIELD OF HEALTH. BESIDES CARRYING OUT DIRECT ACTIVITIES WITH THE GENERAL PUBLIC, THE HEALTH EDUCATOR ASSISTS OTHER PROFESSIONALS AND TECHNICIANS TO IMPROVE THEIR EDUCATIVE MISSION. IN THIS LAST FUNCTION, THE ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ARE CLOSELY COORDINATED WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND OTHER AGENCIES.

DURING THE YEAR 1963-64, SEVERAL ISLAND-WIDE EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGNS WERE PLANNED AND CARRIED OUT FOR SUCH ACTIVITIES AS: DENGUE, DENTAL HEALTH, POISON CONTROL, DIARRHEA-ENTERITIS, ACCIDENT PREVENTION, SMOKING AND HEALTH AND FOR THE AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DONATION AMONG CENTRAL OFFICES EMPLOYEES.





PREVENTIVE HEALTH SERVICES  
SIGNIFICANT FIGURES ON WORK PERFORMED

	FISCAL YEARS	
	1962-63	1963-64
VENEREAL DISEASES:		
SEROLOGICAL SAMPLES EXAMINED	164,000	250,770
CIVILIAN CONTACTS AND SUSPECTS EXAMINED	8,390	14,836
ARMED FORCES CONTACTS EXAMINED	648	804
CASES TREATED	5,515	5,835
TUBERCULOSIS:		
CLINIC VISITS	438,872	379,678
HOME VISITS BY NURSES	15,877	9,514
PHOTOFLUOROGRAPHS	265,227	227,395
X-RAY EXAMINATIONS	34,955	33,979
AMBULATORY CASES ON DRUG THERAPY	8,205	6,815
HEART DISEASES:		
CARDIOLOGY CENTERS IN OPERATION	8	8
NEW PATIENTS EXAMINED	3,050	3,613
PATIENT VISITS	26,334	28,015
ELECTROCARDIOGRAMS TAKEN	10,180	11,494
HOME VISITS BY NURSES	860	868
X-RAY EXAMINATIONS	2,850	2,299
MOTHER AND CHILD HEALTH:		
PRENATAL CLINICS		
NUMBER OF CLINIC SESSIONS HELD	9,978	11,285
ADMITTED TO SERVICE	41,123	40,200
EXAMINED BY PHYSICIAN	55,723	49,438
CLINIC VISITS	131,307	135,276
HOME VISITS BY NURSES	5,269	4,550
ACTIVE AUXILIARY MIDWIVES	957	868
DELIVERIES ATTENDED BY AUXILIARY MIDWIVES	10,586	8,501
GYNECOLOGICAL CLINIC		
NUMBER OF CLINIC SESSIONS HELD	3,063	3,169
MOTHERS ADMITTED TO SERVICE	10,050	10,745
MOTHERS EXAMINED BY PHYSICIAN (NEW AND OLD CASES)	12,899	12,229
CLINIC VISITS	19,806	21,373
HOME VISITS BY NURSES	6,022	5,071





PREVENTIVE HEALTH SERVICES  
SIGNIFICANT FIGURES ON WORK PERFORMED

	FISCAL YEARS	
	1962-63	1963-64
INFANT AND PRE-SCHOOL HYGIENE		
NUMBER OF CLINIC SESSIONS HELD	8,931	9,560
CHILDREN EXAMINED BY PHYSICIAN	60,375	62,331
NEW CASES	24,226	26,881
ANTHELMINTHIC TREATMENTS*	116,617	137,038
HOME VISITS BY NURSES	12,929	12,440
CHILDREN FOUND IN HEALTHY CONDITIONS	40,760	41,891
CLINIC VISITS	158,893	139,604
CHILDREN REFERRED TO SPECIALIZED SERVICES	8,684	10,188
IMMUNIZATIONS (BASIC DOSES)	75,307	82,093
BOOSTER DOSES	25,901	14,979
SCHOOL HEALTH		
NUMBER OF CLINICS HELD	6,262	5,993
CLINIC VISITS	119,211	109,210
CHILDREN EXAMINED BY PHYSICIAN	80,000	76,425
CHILDREN EXAMINED BY NURSE	48,831	39,666
CHILDREN REFERRED TO SPECIALIZED SERVICES	13,125	31,525
CHILDREN FOUND IN HEALTHY CONDITIONS	58,232	51,586
IMMUNIZATIONS (BASIC DOSES)	131,525	93,655
BOOSTER DOSES	39,417	55,529
HOME VISITS BY NURSES	2,637	2,445
CHILDREN WHO RECEIVED OPHTHALMOLOGIC AND OPTOMETRY SERVICES	7,367	7,485
EYEGASSES DONATED	3,914	3,600
CRIPPLED CHILDREN SERVICES		
NUMBER OF CLINICS HELD	2,473	2,751
CLINIC VISITS	27,187	28,800
PATIENTS RECEIVING ONLY ONE SERVICE	10,577	10,787
NEW PATIENTS	3,888	3,814
PATIENTS DISCHARGED	562	242
PATIENTS HOSPITALIZED	1,684	1,582
HOSPITAL DAYS	17,399	15,565
SURGICAL OPERATIONS	1,276	1,317
THERAPY (TREATMENTS)	58,413	60,034
PROSTHETIC APPLIANCES DONATED	4,250	4,621
ORAL HYGIENE:		
PATIENTS ADMITTED TO SERVICE	81,283	134,980
DENTAL OPERATIONS PERFORMED	177,724	327,922

\*INCLUDES SCHOOL CHILDREN



PREVENTIVE HEALTH SERVICES  
SIGNIFICANT FIGURES ON WORK PERFORMED

	FISCAL YEARS	
	1962-63	1963-64
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH:		
HOUSES INSPECTED FOR ERADICATION OF AEDES AEGYPTI MOSQUITO	179,626	244,037
PREVIES DISTRIBUTED	16,377	3,516
SANITARY INSPECTION TO PUBLIC OR PRIVATE ESTABLISHMENTS	41,150	122,498
HEALTH EDUCATION:		
PAMPHLETS AND POSTERS DISTRIBUTED	213,709	225,606
CONSULTATION SERVICES RENDERED	2,599	1,402
TRAINING COURSES TO PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL	98	53
MEDICAL SOCIAL WORK:		
MEDICAL SOCIAL INTERVIEWS IN PUBLIC HEALTH UNITS	36,987	32,677





## PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

FOR THE EXPANSION AND IMPROVEMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES IN PUERTO RICO IT IS NECESSARY TO INTENSIFY THE TRAINING OF PROFESSIONALS SUCH AS PHYSICIANS, NURSES, SOCIAL WORKERS AND OTHERS. IN COLLABORATION WITH THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND THE PUERTO RICO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION SPECIAL COURSES ARE ORGANIZED AND STUDY LEAVES ARE PROCESSED.

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH KEEPS A RECORD OF ALL PHYSICIANS LICENSED IN PUERTO RICO AND, WHENEVER POSSIBLE, BY SPECIALTIES. RECORD IS KEPT ALSO FOR THE SCHOLARSHIPS GRANTED FOR GRADUATE AND POSTGRADUATE STUDIES AND HOW TRAINEES MEET THEIR COMMITMENTS.

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH OPERATES SCHOOLS OF NURSING IN PONCE, FAJARDO AND ARECIBO, AND GIVES FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE SCHOOLS ESTABLISHED AT THE RIO PIEDRAS AND MAYAGUEZ MEDICAL CENTERS. AFFILIATION TRAINING COURSES ARE OFFERED IN PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING AND NURSE MIDWIFERY. NURSES WHO WANT TO COMPLETE COLLEGE EDUCATION AND SPECIALIZED COURSES ARE GRANTED SCHOLARSHIPS.

THE GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS OF NURSING ADMITTED 207 NEW STUDENTS BRINGING THE TOTAL ENROLLMENT FOR THE YEAR TO 471 STUDENTS. 109 STUDENTS RECEIVED THEIR DIPLOMAS AND 142 RECEIVED AFFILIATED TRAINING IN TUBERCULOSIS AND PSYCHIATRIC NURSING.

BASIC AND SPECIALIZED TRAINING ACTIVITIES ARE ALSO SPONSORED FOR SOCIAL WORKERS, NUTRITIONISTS, MEDICAL RECORD LIBRARIANS AND SANITATION OFFICERS.





## SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

THE OFFICE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH WORKED IN 16 PROJECT STUDIES RELATED WITH THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF THE PUERTO RICAN FAMILY. SEVERAL OF THESE PROJECTS ARE IN THE FINAL STAGE.

THROUGH THESE STUDIES IT IS EXPECTED TO DETERMINE THE PATTERNS OF CAUSE AND EFFECT OF THE HEALTH AND WELFARE PROBLEMS AND HOW THEY AFFECT THE WELL-BEING OF THE INDIVIDUAL, THE FAMILY NUCLEUS AND THE COMMUNITY IN GENERAL.

TO CARRY OUT THIS FUNCTION THE STUDIES COVER LONG TERM AND SHORT TERM DISEASES, INFECTIOUS AND PARASITIC ILLS; HOSPITAL STAY AND HOME CONVALESCENCE; WORK ABSENTEEISM AND THE EMOTIONAL AND ECONOMIC BURDEN THAT THIS BRINGS INTO THE HOME. INFORMATION IS GATHERED ON THE KNOWLEDGE, OPINION, ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIOR OF INDIVIDUALS IN SUCH DISEASES AS CANCER, TUBERCULOSIS, DENGUE AND MENTAL DISEASES.

OTHER SOCIAL PROBLEMS AFFECTING THE INDIVIDUAL, THE FAMILY AND THE SOCIETY SUCH AS JUVENILE DELINQUENCY, ADJUSTMENT OF CHILDREN WHOSE MOTHERS WORK OUTSIDE THE HOME; ATTITUDES AND OPINIONS ON HOSPITAL CARE AND SERVICES RENDERED; INTERGROUP RELATIONS AND SUBCULTURAL FAMILY VARIATIONS.



## MEDICAL CARE

APPROXIMATELY 60% OF OUR POPULATION DEPENDS ON GOVERNMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES WHEN IN NEED OF HOSPITAL CARE. OTHERS MAKE USE OF PRIVATE HEALTH SERVICES FOR AMBULATORY TREATMENT BUT USE PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS WHEN IN NEED OF HOSPITALIZATION. STILL OTHERS MAKE USE OF PRIVATE HEALTH SERVICES UNTIL THEIR MEANS ARE EXHAUSTED AND THEN MAKE USE OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES. DEPENDENCY ON GOVERNMENTAL PSYCHIATRIC AND TUBERCULOSIS TREATMENT IS STILL GREATER.

MEDICAL HOSPITAL CARE WAS TRADITIONALLY CONSIDERED A MUNICIPAL RESPONSIBILITY. IN 1927 THE INSULAR GOVERNMENT BEGAN TO COMPLEMENT THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF TWO SMALL DISTRICT HOSPITALS, ONE IN SAN JUAN WITH 50 BEDS AND ANOTHER ONE IN PONCE WITH 75 BEDS. THE PARTICIPATION OF THE INSULAR GOVERNMENT IN MEDICAL CARE SERVICES WAS INCREASED, WHEN IN 1937 THE PRESENT REGIONAL HOSPITALS AT FAJARDO, BAYAMÓN (NOW AT RIO PIEDRAS), ARECIBO AND AGUADILLA WERE BUILT. BY THE MIDDLE OF THE 1930 DECADE, THE PUERTO RICO EMERGENCY RELIEF ADMINISTRATION AND LATER THE PUERTO RICO RECONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION, ESTABLISHED THE RURAL MEDICAL CENTERS. THESE CENTERS WERE TRANSFERRED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND OPERATED AS RURAL PUBLIC HEALTH SUB-UNITS.

IN 1948 THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE HEALTH CENTERS STARTED, THE FIRST ONE OF WHICH BEGAN FUNCTIONING IN ADJUNTAS, IN 1950. ITS OPERATION, WAS PERHAPS THE FIRST ATTEMPT TO A CLOSE COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT AND THE COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT BY SHARING THE FINANCING AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE SERVICES.

IN THESE HEALTH CENTERS THE PREVENTIVE AND CURATIVE SERVICES WERE INTEGRATED AND COORDINATION WITH WELFARE SERVICES WAS ESTABLISHED.

WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF THE HEALTH CENTER CONCEPT IN 1950, A NEW STEP WAS TAKEN IN THE ORGANIZATION OF MEDICAL CARE. THE HEALTH CENTER AT THE LOCAL LEVEL AND THE REGIONAL HOSPITAL BEGAN TO DEVELOP INTO THE REGIONAL MEDICAL CARE SYSTEM.

IN 1954-55 A STUDY WAS MADE FROM WHICH A SERIES OF RECOMMENDATIONS RESULTED FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE REGIONAL ORGANIZATION. THESE RECOMMENDATIONS WERE IMPLEMENTED ON AN EXPERIMENTAL BASIS IN THE SIXTEEN MUNICIPALITIES COMPRISING THE BAYAMÓN REGION NOW KNOWN AS NORTHEAST REGION.

A MORE DETAILED STUDY WAS MADE DURING 1958-59 PRIMARILY TO DETERMINE THE FINANCING ASPECT OF THE REGIONALIZATION PROJECT, BUT THEN OTHER ASPECTS WERE INCLUDED SUCH AS PERSONNEL, BUILDINGS, ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT. THIS STUDY PROVIDED THE BASES FOR THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE REGIONS WITH HEAD OFFICES IN ARECIBO, RIO PIEDRAS, AGUADILLA AND PONCE, KNOWN ALSO AS THE NORTH, NORTHEAST, WEST, SOUTH AND EAST REGIONS, RESPECTIVELY.

AT PRESENT THERE IS A HEALTH CENTER IN 44 MUNICIPALITIES AND PLANS ARE BEING MADE TO HAVE ONE IN ALL MUNICIPALITIES EXCEPT PONCE, MAYAGUEZ, FAJARDO, AGUADILLA, ARECIBO AND CAGUAS. IN THESE LAST MUNICIPALITIES THE REGIONAL OR SUBREGIONAL HOSPITALS WILL BE LOCATED TO SERVE NOT ONLY THEIR OWN AREA BUT ALSO PATIENTS FROM THE TOWNS COMPRISING THE REGION. IN SAN JUAN THE SITUATION IS SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT BECAUSE THE CITY GOVERNMENT HAS SUFFICIENT RESOURCES TO MAINTAIN ITS OWN SERVICES AND COORDINATION IS ACHIEVED THROUGH THE MEDICAL CENTER ORGANIZATION IN RIO PIEDRAS.





FUTURE PLANS CONTEMPLATE THREE HEALTH REGIONS -- NORTHEAST REGION WITH THE HEAD OFFICE AT RIO PIEDRAS; SOUTH REGION WITH THE HEAD OFFICE AT PONCE; WEST REGION WITH THE HEAD OFFICE AT MAYAGUEZ; SUBREGIONS IN YAUCO AND GUAYAMA (SOUTH REGION); AGUADILLA SUBREGION (WEST REGION); AND NORTHEAST SUBREGIONS AT ARECIBO, BAYAMÓN, CAGUAS, AND FAJARDO. EACH REGION WILL BE SELF SUFFICIENT IN COVERING PART OF ITS NEEDS. HIGHLY SPECIALIZED SERVICES, WHICH BECAUSE OF THEIR HIGH COST ARE NOT JUSTIFIED IN EACH OF THE REGIONS, WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE NORTHEAST REGION AT THE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL (REGIONAL HOSPITAL).

THERE IS A MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL AND A PUBLIC HEALTH UNIT IN THOSE MUNICIPALITIES THAT STILL DO NOT HAVE A HEALTH CENTER. DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS AGREEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE WITH THE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES SO AS TO IMPLEMENT THE HEALTH CENTER CONCEPT THROUGH USE OF EXISTING MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL BUILDINGS EVEN THOUGH THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW HEALTH CENTER HAS NOT STARTED AS YET.

ACTUALLY, IT CAN BE STATED THAT EVERY PERSON IN PUERTO RICO, REGARDLESS OF HIS ECONOMIC CONDITION, HAS ACCESS TO A HEALTH SERVICE. WHAT CANNOT BE ASSERTED IS THAT THE QUALITY OF SERVICE IN ALL INSTANCES IS THE BEST. FOR THIS IT IS NECESSARY TO EXPAND THE SERVICES AND IMPROVE QUALITY AT THE SAME TIME.

THIS WILL REQUIRE THE CONSTRUCTION OF GENERAL HOSPITALS SO AS TO PROVIDE 3.5 BEDS FOR EACH THOUSAND INHABITANTS, WHICH WOULD PROVIDE ABOUT ONE PATIENT DAY PER PERSON YEARLY, WHICH IS CONSIDERED ADEQUATE.

THERE IS STILL NEED OF MORE PERSONNEL: PHYSICIANS, NURSES, DENTISTS AND TECHNICIANS; THIS IMPLIES ADDITIONAL ECONOMIC RESOURCES.

AT THE PRESENT TIME, THE STATE GOVERNMENT AND THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS SPEND \$30 MILLIONS ANNUALLY, AT A RATE OF \$20 PER CAPITA YEARLY, IN MEDICAL CARE.

THE ACCOMPANYING TABLES CONTAIN AN STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF THE WORK PERFORMED BY THE REGIONAL HOSPITALS AND THE HEALTH CENTERS DURING THE FISCAL YEAR 1963-64 COMPARED WITH THE YEAR 1962-63.





DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
BUREAU OF HEALTH

WORK PERFORMED BY REGIONAL GENERAL HOSPITALS - FISCAL YEARS 1962-63 AND 1963-64

ITEMS	AGUADILLA (WEST)		ARECIBO (NORTH)		FAJARDO (EAST)		PONCE (SOUTH)		RIO PIEDRAS(NORTHEAST)		TOTAL	
	1962-63	1963-64	1962-63	1963-64	1962-63	1963-64	1962-63	1963-64	1962-63	1963-64	1962-63	1963-64
BED COMPLEMENT	280	280	280	280	280	280	412	412	290	320*	1542	1572
ADMISSIONS	8300	9350	7864	8600	7120	7612	11611	12144	8504	9890	43399	47596
PATIENT-DAYS	87121	95417	81976	81816	79981	78616	136508	141301	100128	106027	485714	503177
AVERAGE DAILY CENSUS (PATIENT)	239.0	260.7	225.0	223.5	219.0	215.0	374.0	386.1	274.3	289.7	1331.0	1375.0
PER CENT OF BED OCCUPANCY	85.2	93.1	80.3	80.0	78.2	73.4	90.7	93.7	95.0	89.4	86.2	87.5
DISCHARGES	8027	8971	7593	7760	6819	7261	10754	11194	7949	9171	41142	44357
AVERAGE STAY (DAY)	10.5	10.2	10.4	10.1	11.2	10.4	11.8	11.6	11.8	10.7	11.1	10.7
DEATHS	254	341	280	332	295	332	776	965	546	722	2151	2692
OPERATIONS	5718	6382	5598	7360	5233	5007	6851	7762	5582	5686	29284	32197
ANESTHESIAS	2967	3390	2209	1908	4985	5172	9596	9097	4699	4734	24456	24301
DELIVERIES	2278	2395	1976	2415	1540	1684	2028	2168	2140	2597	9962	11259
ABORTIONS	348	427	474	492	267	237	418	454	493	574	2000	2184
PREMATURES	297	322	310	335	171	197	262	304	275	327	1315	1485
STILLBIRTHS	75	93	115	122	60	85	173	169	275	131	540	600
AUTOPSIES (TOTAL)	289	355	316	405	283	2/	444	593	549	712	1881	2216
AUTOPSIES (HOSPITAL CASES)	166	262	80	135	128	151	353	462	469	553	1196	1563
PER CENT OF HOSPITAL AUTOPSIES	65.3	76.1	28.6	40.7	43.4	44.6	45.5	47.9	86.0	76.7	51.7	55.4*
TISSUE EXAMINATIONS	2172	2404	2921	3637	10776	5210	3450	3812	6696	5576	26015	20639
CLINICAL LABORATORY TESTS	11490	123365	86240	83408	97670	132401	195348	223130	278761	392491	772509	954795
X-RAY PLATES (PATIENTS)	22517	29574	31277	31635	22372	21590	68304	81704	67671	80946	212141	245449
OUT PATIENT VISITS	25878	30939	38234	41621	31963	35013	58906	62512	68148	74215	223129	244300
EMERGENCIES (HOSP.)	26226	35910	14904	20011	19492	25508	22597	26080	21950	26406	105169	133915
PINTS OF BLOOD OBTAINED	633	333	989	1013	2210	1978	3106	3131	4539	4304	11477	10759
PINTS OF BLOOD SERVED	560	285	1739	1687	2203	1900	3013	3000	4349	3811	11864	10683
PHYSIOTHERAPY TREATMENTS	2133	2739	4949	1311	17390	1499	33373	42050	12976	17006	70821	63425
ELECTROCARDIOGRAMS	2340	2517	1288	1495	979	1090	4069	4148	1956	2579	10632	11829
MEDICAL SOCIAL INTERVIEWS	2459	2464	1893	1593	548	596	5573	3595	11683	10586	22156	18834
PRESCRIPTIONS FILLED	15094	38750	13802	18066	38535	39337	77947	81999	55187	68938	200565	247090

\* AVERAGE FOR THE YEAR

1/ THERAPIST ON SICK LEAVE

2/ NOT DETERMINED



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
BUREAU OF HEALTH

WORK PERFORMED BY HEALTH CENTERS (HOSPITAL UNIT)  
FISCAL YEARS 1962-63 AND 1963-64

ITEMS	RIO PIEDRAS (NORTHEAST)		FAJARDO (EAST)		PONCE (SOUTH)		AGUADILLA (WEST)		ARECIBO (NORTH)		TOTAL	
	1962-63	1963-64	1962-63	1963-64	1962-63	1963-64	1962-63	1963-64	1962-63	1963-64 ✓	1962-63	1963-64
BEDS AVAILABLE	295	300	173	168	284	274	116	126	135	265	1003	1133
ADMISSIONS	12253	14258	7184	6838	10553	10712	5446	4344	5237	8537	40673	44689
PATIENT-DAYS	51840	61058	32663	32939	54118	59100	22749	19550	24882	58573	186252	231220
PER CENT OF OCCUPANCY	51.2	56.0	52.0	54.0	54.9	59.1	47.0	42.4	50.4	60.4	51.0	54.0
AVERAGE DAILY CENSUS (PATIENTS)	152.7	166.7	89.4	90.0	150.4	161.9	61.1	53.4	68.1	160.0	521.7	632.0
AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY	4.1	4.0	4.1	4.8	4.9	5.5	4.5	4.5	5.5	5.8	4.7	4.9
DISCHARGES	11905	14199	7211	6823	10669	10549	4783	4334	4462	8575	39030	44480
DEATHS	72	109	53	123	133	128	54	45	76	198	388	603
OPERATIONS	1600	5207	2460	3078	1858	1966	670	538	2160	2960	8748	13749
DELIVERIES	5725	6065	2088	2149	2785	3580	2272	2016	1618	3144	14488	16954
ABORTIONS	274	259	*	61	88	138	78	36	*	179	440	673
PREMATURES	235	273	59	75	117	126	99	90	62	112	572	676
STILLBIRTHS	43	43	*	44	50	67	44	42	*	51	137	247
CLINICAL LABORATORY TESTS	96699	104643	61931	72045	75890	77963	61242	58529	32164	105467	327926	418647
OUT PATIENT VISITS	258085	302791	169160	217269	235773	236174	94339	89958	109300	301356	866657	1147548
EMERGENCIES	217739	209318	164586	89414	152105	121821	62495	70505	36467	145354	633392	636412

\* NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE

✓ INCLUDES WORK PERFORMED AT ARECIBO MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL WHICH  
FUNCTIONED AS A HEALTH CENTER DURING THIS FISCAL YEAR





## HOSPITAL CONSTRUCTION AND LICENSING AND OTHER HEALTH FACILITIES

THE INSTITUTIONS NEEDED FOR THE PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES INCLUDE: GENERAL AND SPECIALIZED HOSPITALS, HEALTH CENTERS, NURSING HOMES, DIAGNOSTIC AND TREATMENT CENTERS, AND REHABILITATION CENTERS.

BED NEEDS ARE DETERMINED TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION POPULATION TO BE SERVED, WAYS OF COMMUNICATION, PREVALENCE OF DISEASES AND OTHER FACTORS THAT REQUIRE A CONTINUOUS ANALYSIS.

SINCE 1947 THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN GIVING ASSISTANCE THROUGH ANNUAL GRANTS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND REMODELING OF HOSPITALS AND OTHER HEALTH FACILITIES. DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS, GRANTS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED IN AN AMOUNT OF SIX MILLION DOLLARS PER YEAR. THESE FUNDS ARE MATCHED \$1 STATE FOR EACH \$2 FEDERAL AND HAVE BEEN USED TO MEET THE NEEDS OUTLINED IN THE HOSPITAL CONSTRUCTION PLAN AS APPROVED FOR THIS PURPOSE.

THE DIVISION OF HOSPITAL SURVEY AND CONSTRUCTION REVISES THE HOSPITAL CONSTRUCTION PLAN ANNUALLY. FOR THE PROJECTS IN WHICH THE COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT IS DIRECTLY INVOLVED, THIS DIVISION IS IN CHARGE OF IMPLEMENTING THE CONSTRUCTION OF FACILITIES; IN THE CASE OF PRIVATE NON-PROFIT FACILITIES IT SUPERVISES THE USE OF DONATED FUNDS.

THIS DIVISION IS ALSO CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE LICENSURE OF HOSPITALS. ALL HOSPITALS ARE INSPECTED EVERY YEAR AND A LICENSE IS ISSUED TO THOSE THAT ARE OPERATING WITHIN MINIMUM ESTABLISHED STANDARDS. DURING 1963-64, LICENSES WERE ISSUED TO 139 HOSPITALS OF WHICH 89 WITH A TOTAL BED CAPACITY OF 8,630 WERE GOVERNMENTAL AND 50 WERE PRIVATE WITH 3,911 BEDS.

THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE FOLLOWING FACILITIES WAS COMPLETED IN 1963-64: EXPANSION AND REMODELING OF THE TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL DR. RUIZ SOLER, IN BAYAMÓN; PSYCHIATRY UNIT FOR AMBULATORY PATIENTS, AUDITORIUM AND LIBRARY OF THE PSYCHIATRY HOSPITAL IN THE PONCE MEDICAL CENTER; VIEQUES PUBLIC HEALTH UNIT; SAN SEBASTIAN HEALTH CENTER; AND THE NURSING HOME AT THE RYDER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, HUMACAO.

THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS WERE UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT THE END OF THIS FISCAL YEAR: TWO NURSING HOMES, ONE IN ARECIBO AND ANOTHER ONE IN PONCE; HEALTH CENTERS AT VEGA ALTA, BARRANQUITAS AND JUANA DIAZ; REHABILITATION CENTER OF THE PONCE MEDICAL CENTER; EXPANSION OF PRIVATE NON-PROFIT INSTITUTIONS: AUXILIO MUTUO, PRESBYTERIAN HOSPITAL AND MENNONITE HOSPITAL (AIBONITO), AND ST. LUKE'S IN PONCE; EXPANSION OF THE PONCE REGIONAL HOSPITAL (FIFTH FLOOR); AT THE RIO PIEDRAS MEDICAL CENTER, THE CENTRAL BUILDING, THE CITY HOSPITAL, THE INDUSTRIAL HOSPITAL, THE KITCHEN AND CAFETERIA; AND THE SANTA ROSA CLINIC IN GUAYAMA.

IN COOPERATION WITH THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC WELFARE A PROGRAM FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND EXPANSION OF WELFARE INSTITUTIONS WAS PREPARED. THIS CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM IS DIRECTED TOWARDS REPLACEMENT OF INADEQUATE INSTITUTIONS AND EXPANSION OF EXISTING FACILITIES, CONSTRUCTION OF ONE OR TWO NEW INSTITUTIONS AND CONVERSION OF SOME ACTUALLY USED FOR OTHER PURPOSES. AT PRESENT A STUDY IS BEING MADE FOR THE LOCATION OF A NEW INSTITUTION FOR OLDER BOYS IN COROZAL.





## SOCIAL WELFARE

DURING 1963-64 EMPHASIS WAS GIVEN TO THOSE ACTIVITIES INITIATED LAST YEAR IN THE WELFARE PROGRAMS WHICH ARE BASED PRIMARILY IN THE EFFORT TO COMBAT, THROUGH PREVENTIVE MEASURES AND REHABILITATION, THOSE SOCIAL EVILS WHICH AFFECT THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE PUERTO RICAN FAMILY.

THE OBJECTIVES OF THESE PROGRAMS WERE DIRECTED TOWARDS THE DEVELOPMENT OF ACTIVITIES THAT TEND TO DIMINISH ECONOMIC DEPENDENCY OF FAMILIES RECEIVING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE; TO THE STRENGTHENING OF FAMILY LIFE; TO THE PREVENTION AND SOLUTION OF PROBLEMS AFFECTING CHILDREN AND YOUTH; AND TO THE PROVISION OF SERVICES TO GROUPS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS.

### PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

THIS PROGRAM OFFERS ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, MEDICAL ATTENTION AND SOCIAL SERVICES TO NEEDY INDIVIDUALS, INCLUDING CHILDREN, THE BLIND AND THE PERMANENTLY AND TOTALLY DISABLED AS WELL AS OTHER PERSONS UNABLE TO EARN THEIR LIVELIHOOD. THE DISTRIBUTION OF DONATED SURPLUS FOODSTUFFS IS INCLUDED AS PART OF THE ASSISTANCE.

THE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE IS PROVIDED WHILE THE NEED PERSISTS AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMPLEMENT THIS ASSISTANCE AS PART OF A PLAN THAT, CONSIDERING THE FAMILY AS AN INTEGRAL UNIT, TENDS TO PREVENT DEPENDENCY, IMPROVES PROTECTION AND REHABILITATES THOSE INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES WITH POTENTIALITIES FOR SELF CARE AND SUPPORT.

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN RECEIVED SPECIAL ATTENTION DURING THIS FISCAL YEAR. THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM CARRIED OUT A SOCIAL SURVEY ON A NUMBER OF THESE FAMILIES TO DETERMINE THE NATURE AND INTENSITY OF SERVICES NEEDED BY EACH ONE. ACTUALLY IN SOME OF THE FAMILIES STUDIED, INTENSIVE SOCIAL SERVICES WERE RENDERED DIRECTED TOWARDS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REHABILITATION. EFFORTS WERE STRESSED FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES OF CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE IN THESE FAMILIES. THE GRANTING OF A SUBSIDY AS A MEANS TO KEEP CHILDREN FROM DROPPING OUT OF SCHOOL WAS STARTED IN MAY 1964. AT THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR THERE WERE 170,599 CHILDREN RECEIVING ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE; OF THIS NUMBER 67.4% WERE CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE.

IN AN EFFORT TO INCORPORATE IN THE WORKING FORCE OF PUERTO RICO THOSE EMPLOYABLE MEMBERS OF DEPENDENT FAMILIES, THUS PREVENTING CONTINUED DEPENDENCY ON PUBLIC ASSISTANCE, A PROJECT WAS STARTED THIS YEAR IN COLLABORATION WITH THE EMPLOYMENT SECURITY BUREAU OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR. A PUBLIC ASSISTANCE WORKER WAS TRANSFERRED TO THIS PROJECT TO WORK EXCLUSIVELY IN THE SEARCH OF EMPLOYMENT FOR PERSONS REFERRED BY THE RIO PIEDRAS PUBLIC WELFARE UNIT. THESE SERVICES WILL BE EXPANDED IN 1964-65 THROUGH ADDITIONAL FUNDS APPROPRIATED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 1964.

### SPECIAL THIS YEAR

THE AGED AND THE DISABLED RECEIVED ATTENTION NOT ONLY IN REGARD TO THEIR HEALTH PROBLEMS BUT ALSO THOSE OF A SOCIAL NATURE. A HOUSEKEEPER PROGRAM WAS INITIATED TO CARE FOR THOSE INDIVIDUALS UNABLE TO TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES AND WHO DO NOT HAVE HELP FROM THEIR RELATIVES. THE REHABILITATION BOARD AT PONCE TOOK CARE OF THE SPECIAL NEEDS OF THE DISABLED WHO REQUESTED OR WERE RECEIVING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE IN THIS REGION. THESE SERVICES HAVE PROVED TO BE SO EFFECTIVE IN THE OVER-ALL SOCIAL WELFARE SYSTEM THAT THEY WILL BE EXPANDED NEXT FISCAL YEAR.



IN 1963-64 A TOTAL OF \$15,304,125 WAS SPENT IN MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF REGULAR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO 126,452 FAMILIES WITH 319,540 PERSONS. OF THIS TOTAL, \$8,447,570 WERE FEDERAL FUNDS AND THE REMAINING FROM STATE SOURCES. ABOUT THREE MILLION DOLLARS WERE USED FROM STATE FUNDS IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROGRAM. AVERAGE MONTHLY PAYMENT FOR ALL CATEGORIES WAS \$11.67 BUT PAYMENTS FLUCTUATED FROM \$2 TO \$60 PER FAMILY. THE SUM OF \$137,326 FROM STATE FUNDS WAS USED IN EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO \$17,387 CASES.

SURPLUS FOODSTUFFS DONATED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ARE DISTRIBUTED AMONG NEEDY FAMILIES TO SUPPLEMENT AND VARY THEIR DAILY DIET. A TOTAL OF 120,067 FAMILIES WITH 693,712 PERSONS BENEFITED FROM THIS PROGRAM. 168 NON PROFIT INSTITUTIONS WITH AN ENROLLMENT OF 22,738 PERSONS ALSO PARTICIPATED IN THE PROGRAM. THE 79 COMMISSARIES OPERATING FOR THIS PURPOSE, DISTRIBUTED AROUND 99 MILLION POUNDS OF FOOD VALUED AT 22 MILLION DOLLARS. IN THE 218 MILK STATIONS WITH AN ENROLLMENT OF 7,038 CHILDREN, 770,724 POUNDS OF DRY MILK WERE DISTRIBUTED AT A COST OF \$323,705.

#### CHILD WELFARE

THE SERVICES IN THIS PROGRAM ARE DESIGNED FOR CHILDREN DEPRIVED OF THE CARE AND ATTENTION NEEDED TO GUARANTEE A NORMAL GROWTH; TO CHILDREN PRESENTING BEHAVIOUR OR PERSONALITY PROBLEMS OR THOSE IN PHYSICAL OR MORAL DANGER; CHILDREN PHYSICALLY OR MENTALLY HANDICAPPED; AND DELINQUENT OR PREDELINQUENT YOUTHS.

AS OF JUNE 30, 1964 THESE SERVICES HAD REACHED 8,403 FAMILIES WITH 23,324 CHILDREN. 86% OF THE CHILDREN HAD RECEIVED ATTENTION IN THEIR OWN HOMES OR IN THE HOMES OF RELATIVES. THE EMPLOYMENT OF 282 HOUSEKEEPERS, WHO CARED FOR 1,386 MINORS, PREVENTED THE DISRUPTION OF FAMILIES; THIS SERVICE HELPED IN KEEPING CHILDREN IN THEIR OWN HOMES. ELECTROENCEPHALOGRAPHIC EXAMINATIONS WERE DONE ON 216 CHILDREN, 190 HAD A PSYCHOLOGIC TEST AND 17 A NEUROLOGIC EXAMINATION.

648 FOSTER HOMES TOOK CARE OF 1,751 CHILDREN WHO HAD NO HOME OF THEIR OWN OR WHO LIVED IN CONDITIONS THAT THREATENED THEIR SECURITY OR WELFARE. IN FOUR TEMPORARY HOMES 43 CHILDREN WERE CARED FOR. OF 787 ADOPTION APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED THIS YEAR 512 WERE APPROVED.

83 CHILDREN (45 OF THEM BOARDERS) WERE PLACED IN FOUR PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS WITH EXPENSES PAID FROM COMMONWEALTH FUNDS. 19 MENTALLY RETARDED CHILDREN BENEFITED FROM A DAY CAMP.

A NEW FEDERAL APPROPRIATION HELPED IN INTENSIFYING DAY CARE SERVICES TO CHILDREN. IT WAS POSSIBLE TO PROMOTE AND LICENSE HOMES AND CENTERS DEDICATED TO THIS PURPOSE. AT PRESENT THERE ARE 139 DAY CARE CENTERS AND 377 HOMES FOR DAY CARE. THE PUBLIC WELFARE SERVICES ARE COMPLEMENTED WITH AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE FORMED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE URBAN RENEWAL AND HOUSING CORPORATION, THE SCHOOL LUNCHROOM DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ITSELF, AS WELL AS OTHER PERSONS INTERESTED IN CHILD WELFARE.

THE YOUTH COUNSELING PROGRAM OPERATED WITH 23 YOUTH COUNSELORS IN SEVERAL LOW INCOME AND SOCIALLY DETERIORATED COMMUNITIES WHERE A LARGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN ARE IN DANGER OF BECOMING DELINQUENTS. OF THESE, 20 WORKED WITH MINORS DISCHARGED FROM PUBLIC WELFARE INSTITUTIONS AND 3 WITH TWELVE GROUPS (COMPRISING 1,342 CHILDREN AND YOUTHS) IN PREVENTION WORK.





## INSTITUTIONAL SERVICES

THE INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAM OF THE PUBLIC WELFARE DIVISION IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING SOCIAL TREATMENT OF A RESIDENTIAL NATURE TO CHILDREN PRESENTING PROBLEMS OF SOCIAL ADJUSTMENT THAT DO NOT PERMIT THEM TO LIVE IN THEIR HOMES OR IN THE COMMUNITY. THERE ARE NINE INSTITUTIONS, FOUR OF THEM IN THE METROPOLITAN AREA AND FIVE IN THE ISLAND. THE PROGRAM ALSO PROVIDES EDUCATION TO BLIND CHILDREN AT THE LOAIZA CORDERO INSTITUTE IN SANTURCE; AND SHELTER AND CERTAIN SERVICES TO THE ADULT BLIND, IN PONCE.

DURING THE YEAR NEW ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES WERE INITIATED TO SUPPLEMENT THE DAILY INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAM AND TO STRENGTHEN THOSE PROGRAMS THAT HAVE PROVEN EFFECTIVE IN THE TREATMENT OF INSTITUTIONALIZED MINORS WITH DRUG ADDICTION AT THE MAYAGUEZ INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL AND THE JUVENILE HOME IN HATO REY.

THE PLANNING OF PROJECTS WAS DIRECTED TO ACCELERATING REHABILITATION OF INSTITUTIONALIZED MINORS THROUGH: THE PROVISION OF A GROUP HOME FOR CHILDREN ABOUT TO BE DISCHARGED FROM THE INSTITUTIONS AND WHO DO NOT HAVE A HOME; AND ALSO THROUGH THE PURCHASE OF SERVICES FROM CAMP EL ROSARIO.

THE BUILDINGS/AND THEIR SURROUNDINGS WERE IMPROVED SO AS TO CREATE MORE PROPITIOUS ENVIRONMENT FOR THE SOCIAL TREATMENTS OF THE MINORS.

THE TOTAL ENROLLMENT OF THE ELEVEN PUBLIC WELFARE INSTITUTIONS REACHED 3,577, THIS REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF 399 INTERNS WHEN COMPARED WITH LAST YEAR FIGURE. OF THIS ENROLLMENT, 217 HAD A VISUAL DEFECT (106 CHILDREN AND 111 ADULTS BLIND); THE REST WERE CHILDREN WITH PERSONALITY OR BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS. EVIDENTLY, THE EFFORTS MADE TO INTENSIFY A BETTER USE OF INSTITUTIONAL SPACE IN A SHORT PERIOD, AS WELL AS THE ORGANIZATION AND DIRECTION OF ADMISSIONS AND DISCHARGES, WERE IN PART RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SUCCESS IN THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBERS OF MINORS MAKING USE OF THE SPACE UTILIZED LAST YEAR.

THE LOAIZA CORDERO INSTITUTE PROVIDES A SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM FOR BLIND CHILDREN WHICH INCLUDES NOT ONLY ACADEMIC AND VOCATIONAL INSTRUCTION, BUT COMPLETE RESIDENTIAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES.

WITH THE PURPOSE OF IMPROVING THE CARE AND TREATMENT OF MINORS, FOUR TRAINING CENTERS WERE ORGANIZED FOR NEWLY APPOINTED PERSONNEL WHO WILL BE IN CHARGE OF THE CARE OF CHILDREN IN GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS. THE RESULTS WERE VERY EFFECTIVE WHEN 118 PERSONS OF THE 176 APPOINTED, COMPLETED TRAINING. OTHER SPECIAL TRAINING ACTIVITIES WERE CONDUCTED FOR INSTITUTION DIRECTORS, VOCATIONAL TEACHERS, SOCIAL WORKERS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONAL PERSONNEL; THUS THEIR PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL CAPACITY WAS IMPROVED.

THE PROBLEM PRESENTED BY MINORS ADMITTED TO PENAL INSTITUTIONS CONTINUED TO RECEIVING CAREFUL ATTENTION WITH THE RESULT THAT 90 MINORS WERE TRANSFERRED FROM THE JAILS TO THE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL AT MAYAGUEZ AND, VICE VERSA, 20 WERE SENT FROM OUR INSTITUTIONS TO PENAL INSTITUTIONS. ANOTHER PROBLEM WITH A RATHER DIFFICULT SOLUTION, BUT RECEIVING HIGH PRIORITY, IS THAT PRESENTED BY THE EVASIONS OF MINORS FROM THE STATE HOMES. 1,824 EVASIONS WERE REGISTERED OUT OF 3,577 ADMISSIONS; OF THOSE EVADED, 1,471 RETURNED, THAT IS, 81%, BUT AS OF JUNE 30, 1964, 353 HAD NOT RETURNED. DUE TO THE LACK OF ADEQUATE PROGRAMS FOR THE CHILDREN AND THE SCARCITY OF SPECIALIZED PERSONNEL TO WORK INTENSIVELY WITH THEM, THERE IS TOO MUCH FREE TIME FOR THE CHILDREN, FACILITATING EVASIONS. A POSSIBLE SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM, COULD BE THE SOCIAL WORK GROUP, WHEN INITIATED.

THE FIRST OF THESE IS THE FACT THAT THE  
COUNTRY IS A DEVELOPING ONE, AND THE  
ECONOMY IS IN A STATE OF TRANSITION.  
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## SERVICES TO THE HANDICAPPED

THE OBJECTIVE OF THIS PROGRAM IS TO STUDY THE NATURE AND EXTENSION OF PROBLEMS PRESENTED BY SOME GROUPS OF HANDICAPPED PERSONS; EDUCATE THE COMMUNITY IN RELATION TO THESE PROBLEMS AND PROMOTE THEIR PREVENTION; ALSO PROMOTE THE CREATION OF RESOURCES TO COPE WITH THEM.

SERVICES RENDERED INCLUDE PSYCHOLOGICAL AND MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS, PROVISION OF EYEGLASSES AND ARTIFICIAL EYES; AND HOME CLASSES TO THE ADULT BLIND.

IN ALL, THERE WERE 36 PSYCHOMETRIC AND 937 PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTS PERFORMED; 61 ELECTROENCEPHALOGRAMS AND 1,228 EYE EXAMINATIONS. THE SOCIETY NEW EYES FOR THE NEEDY DONATED \$4,000 WHICH TOGETHER TO \$1,500 FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO MADE POSSIBLE THE DONATION OF EYEGLASSES TO 1,075 PERSONS; ALSO 9 ARTIFICIAL EYES WERE PROVIDED.

SIX BLIND TEACHERS GAVE 4,063 GLASSES TO AN AVERAGE OF 211 BLIND ADULTS AT THEIR OWN HOMES, MOST OF WHOM LOST THEIR SIGHT AT A VERY ADVANCED AGE. THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF THESE CLASSES IS TO REHABILITATE THEM THUS PREVENTING FAMILY PROBLEMS RESULTING FROM THE EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCE CAUSED BY BLINDNESS. THE PUPILS MADE 4,056 ARTICLES OF WHICH 304 WERE SOLD AT \$1,900.

## INTERAGENCY SERVICES

REQUEST FOR SERVICES RECEIVED FROM SOCIAL WELFARE AGENCIES, LOCAL AND FOREIGN, ARE HANDLED BY A SPECIALIZED OFFICE WHICH COORDINATES THE WORK WITH THESE AGENCIES, AS WELL AS PRIVATE CITIZENS WHO WISH TO CONTACT PUERTO RICAN IMMIGRANTS.

A TOTAL OF 10,854 REQUESTS WERE HANDLED THIS YEAR, OF WHICH 7,009 WERE SATISFACTORILY TAKEN CARE OF AND 208 WERE DISCONTINUED. THE LARGEST NUMBER OF REQUESTS ARE RELATED WITH DEPENDENT MINORS AND ADULTS WHO PRESENT A BEHAVIOR PROBLEM IN THE STATES AND WISH TO RETURN TO THE ISLAND; HOSPITALIZED PERSONS OR THOSE UNDER TREATMENT WHO WANT TO BE TRANSFERRED TO AN INSTITUTION IN THE ISLAND; CHILD CUSTODY; LOCATION OF PERSONS; SUBMITTAL OF RECORDS OF MINORS AND ADULTS TO COURTS OF JUSTICE; VERIFICATION AND EVALUATION OF FAMILY PLANS WHO REQUEST WORKMEN COMPENSATION; PLACEMENT OF CUBAN CHILDREN AMONG RELATIVES AND FRIENDS RESIDING IN PUERTO RICO. REQUESTS CAME FROM UNITED STATES, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, VENEZUELA, GERMANY AND URUGUAY.

## TRAINING

THE CHANGES INTRODUCED IN THE PUBLIC WELFARE PROGRAMS CALLED FOR A LARGE EXPANSION IN THE TRAINING ACTIVITIES THIS YEAR. 1,346 EMPLOYEES BENEFITTED FROM 52 TRAINING ACTIVITIES. SEVENTEEN PERSONS PURSUED PROFESSIONAL STUDIES, SOME THROUGH SCHOLARSHIPS GRANTED BY THE OFFICE OF PERSONNEL AND OTHERS THROUGH STUDY LEAVES. TWENTY ONE EMPLOYEES ATTENDED WORKSHOPS, SHORT COURSES AND OFFICIAL TRIPS TO THE UNITED STATES IN ORDER TO ACQUIRE MORE KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE IN THOSE AREAS OF THEIR PARTICULAR FIELDS.



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DIVISION OF PUBLIC WELFARE

SIGNIFICANT DATA OF THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FISCAL YEAR 1963-64

C A T E G O R I E S

MOVEMENT OF APPLICATIONS BY CATEGORIES	TOTAL	AGED	BLIND	DISABLED	GENERAL ASSISTANCE	NEEDY CHILDREN	CHILDREN WITH TUTORS
1. PENDING AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD	1,603	142	48	746	7	632	28
2. RECEIVED DURING THE PERIOD	19,222	2,755	179	5,415	165	10,152	556
3. TOTAL FOR PERIOD	20,825	2,897	227	6,161	172	10,784	584
4. APPLICATIONS DISPOSED OF	17,991	2,614	174	5,146	169	9,371	517
A. AUTHORIZED	13,159	2,162	97	3,521	155	6,850	374
B. DENIED	3,708	370	70	1,428	12	1,743	85
C. WITHDRAWN	1,124	82	7	197	2	778	58
5. PENDING AT END OF PERIOD	2,834	283	53	1,015	3	1,413	67
PER CENT AUTHORIZED	73.14	82.71	55.75	68.42	91.72	73.10	72.34

GENERAL' NIÑOS NECESITADOS

MOVEMENT OF CASES BY CATEGORIES	TOTAL	AGED	BLIND	DISABLED	GENERAL ASSISTANCE	CHIL- DREN	ADULTS	CASES	CHIL- DREN
6. ACTIVE AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD	113,293	34,221	1,619	22,189	403	172,929	48,938	2,921	3,555
7. ACCEPTED DURING PERIOD 1/	13,159	2,162	97	3,521	155	23,079	6,245	374	427
A. NEW	11,139	1,736	80	3,148	147	19,191	5,208	340	392
B. REOPENED	2,020	426	17	373	8	3,888	1,037	34	35
8. TOTAL DURING PERIOD	126,452	36,383	1,716	25,710	558	196,008	55,183	3,295	3,982
9. DISCONTINUED 1/	18,840	4,187	180	3,936	186	28,595	8,387	722	796
10. ACTIVE AT END OF PERIOD	107,612	32,196	1,536	21,774	372	167,413	46,796	2,573	3,186
11. AVERAGE PAYMENT	\$11.55	\$8.44	\$8.34	\$8.56	\$7.62	--	--	\$4.56	--

1/ THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE 13,159 CASES ACCEPTED AND THE 18,840 CASES DISCONTINUED,

REPRESENT 653 CHANGES IN CATEGORY

PERSONS SERVED DURING THE YEAR:

TOTAL FOR THE YEAR ..... 319,540  
 ADULTS..... 119,550  
 CHILDREN..... 199,990



DEPT. OF HEALTH-DIVISION OF PUBLIC WELFARE  
CHILD WELFARE- 1963-64

DISTRICTS

MOVEMENT OF CASES	TOTAL		ARECIBO		CAGUAS		MAYAGUEZ		PONCE		SAN JUAN	
	FAM.-CHILDREN		FAM.-CHILDREN		FAM.-CHILDREN		FAM.-CHILDREN		FAM.-CHILDREN		FAM.-CHILDREN	
ACTIVE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	6266	14908	750	1629	756	1716	1200	3373	930	1937	2630	6253
ACCEPTED FOR SERVICE	2237	8416	328	1172	191	684	417	1593	414	1435	887	3532
NEW	2036	7488	301	1043	176	608	385	1410	369	1245	805	3182
REOPENED	201	563	27	76	15	43	32	103	45	119	82	222
TRANSFERRED FROM PUBLIC WELFARE INSTITUTIONS	--	365	--	53	--	33	--	80	--	71	--	128
ACTIVE DURING THE YEAR	8503	23324	1078	2801	947	2400	1617	4966	1344	3372	3517	9785
DISCONTINUED	1362	4494	166	561	143	490	213	734	269	779	571	1930
CLOSED	1362	4100	166	503	143	450	213	659	269	692	571	1769
TRANSFERRED TO PUBLIC WELFARE INSTITUTIONS	--	394	--	58	--	40	--	75	--	87	--	134
ACTIVE AT END OF YEAR	7141	18830	912	2240	804	1910	1404	4232	1075	2593	2946	7855
WITH CASE HISTORY COMPLETED	4916		629		457		971		787		2072	
CASES WORKED DURING THE YEAR	39011		5564		2963		6814		7015		16655	





DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
DIVISION OF PUBLIC WELFARE

YEAR 1963-64

INSTITUTIONS	ENROLLMENT AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	ADMISSIONS DURING YEAR	TOTAL REGULAR ENROLLMENT	DISCHARGES	ENROLLMENT AT END OF YEAR
TOTAL	1,632	1,945	3,577	1,880	1,697
HOME FOR BOYS - GUAYNABO	432	282	714	316	398
HOME FOR GIRLS - SANTURCE	184	153	337	148	189
INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FOR BOYS - MAYAGUEZ	391	354	745	316	429
INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FOR GIRLS - PONCE	182	113	295	111	184
JUVENILE HOME - HATO REY	107	710	817	679	138
JUVENILE HOME - PONCE	47	194	241	201	40
SOCIAL TREATMENT CENTER - AIBONITO	25	25	50	13	37
SOCIAL TREATMENT CENTER - PONCE	46	47	93	30	63
BOYS CAMP - MARICAO	38	30	68	31	37
INSTITUTE FOR BLIND CHILDREN - SANTURCE	87	19	106	15	91
HOME FOR THE ADULT BLIND - PONCE	93	18	111	20	91





## SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR PUERTO RICO

YEAR 1963

The present report contains a summary of the Vital Statistics for Puerto Rico during the calendar year 1963, compared with those for the preceding year 1962, and with the corresponding average figures for the quinquennium 1958-1962.

### POPULATION:

The population figures used in computing the rates are estimates based on natural increase (births-deaths) and net migration (immigration-emigration) taking the census of April 1, 1960 as a basis. That is, to the population enumerated in the 1960 census, it has been added successively the balance of the four factors that directly play a part in population growth, namely: natality, mortality, immigration and emigration.

The population figures used in the computation of the annual rates for the years 1963 and 1962 are estimates as of July 1st calculated by the above mentioned method. This method results in the following figures:

July 1st 1963 - 2,513,000  
July 1st 1962 - 2,455,000

The annual average rates for the period 1958-1962 were based on a population of 2,367,000 that is, the average of the population estimated as of July 1st of each of these five years.

The monthly rates were computed on an annual basis, but using estimates as of the 15th day of each month calculated by the method of natural increase and net migration based on the figure given by the census of 1960.

### NATALITY:

A total of 77,382 births occurred in Puerto Rico during the year 1963. In other words, the number of births exceeded the number of deaths by 60,003 and the ratio of about 4 births for each death which had been observed in recent years, continued in 1963.

The 77,382 births occurred in 1963, represent a birth rate of 30.8 annual births per 1,000 population. This is the lowest birth rate recorded in Puerto Rico since 1931, the date on which Vital Statistics were centralized in our island. As a result of this centralization, the registration of births has become gradually more complete and it has been determined in the latest Birth Registration Test, performed in connection with the 1950 census, that about 96 per cent of the births occurred in Puerto Rico, is registered.

As yet, we cannot determine to what extent the reduction in the birth rate of our population can be attributed to the importance that emigration has attained in recent years. However, it may be asserted that emigration has contributed to the reduction of our birth rate, since, besides having increased considerably the number



of persons leaving the island, we know that the great majority of these is included in the reproductive ages.

The difference between the birth rate and the death rate represents the biological or natural increase rate of our population. In 1963, this rate was 23.9 additional persons per 1,000 population, 24.4 in 1962, and 24.6 in 1961. It can be said the natural increase rate of our population is still one of the highest in the world.

Table 2, presents births occurred in 1963 and 1962 distributed by month and the monthly averages for the period 1958-1962 with the corresponding birth rates per 1,000 population.

Tables 8 and 9 present birth data for the five health districts of the island.

#### GENERAL MORTALITY:

A total of 17,386 deaths occurred in Puerto Rico during the year 1963. This figure represents an annual death rate of 6.9 deaths per 1,000 population.

Table 3 presents a distribution of total deaths occurred in Puerto Rico during the year 1963 by month of occurrence and the monthly death rates computed on an annual basis. It also presents the corresponding figures for the year 1962 and monthly averages for the quinquennium 1958-1962.

Table 4 of this report presents a distribution by important causes of deaths occurred during the year 1963. For comparison purposes, the corresponding figures for the year 1962 and averages for the quinquennium 1958-1962 are presented. This table includes also the corresponding death rates per 100,000 population. Deaths assigned to these causes constituted about 79 per cent of the total deaths for the year.

Diseases of the heart, malignant neoplasms, diarrhea-enteritis, vascular lesions, accidents, general arteriosclerosis and diabetes mellitus caused more deaths this year than in the previous one.

On the other hand, deaths from tuberculosis and pneumonias were slightly below corresponding figures for 1962.

Tuberculosis is now the seventh cause of death in our list of selected causes. Accidents, however, are on the upper side as the fifth. During this year, a total of 914 persons died as a result of fatal accidents. Motor vehicle accidents claimed 46 per cent of these deaths, (424). Accidental deaths are the leading cause of deaths in ages 5-39 years.

#### STILLBIRTHS:

These refer to the born dead after 20 weeks, (5 months) of gestation. The average stillbirth rate in Puerto Rico for the period 1958-1962 is 30.6 stillbirths per 1,000 live births. In the year 1962 this figure came as low as 28.5 stillbirths per 1,000 live births. In 1963, the stillbirths rate remained at the same level of the year 1962 (28.5 stillbirths per 1,000 live births).





Table 5 presents the monthly figures on stillbirths for the years 1963 and 1962 as well as for the average of the quinquennium 1958-1962.

Table 8 presents data on natimortality for the five health districts of the island.

#### INFANT DEATHS:

Infant deaths are deaths of children under 1 year of age. During this year, 3,467 infants died before reaching their first birthday. This represents a rate of 44.8 deaths of children under one year per 1,000 live births.

Table 6 presents infant deaths by months and the corresponding rates per 1,000 live births for the years 1963, 1962, and average for the quinquennium 1958-1962.

Certain diseases of early infancy, diarrhea-enteritis, penumonias, immaturity, and congenital malformations claimed 83 per cent of the total infant deaths in 1963.

Table 8 presents data on infant mortality for the five health districts.

#### MARRIAGES:

Puerto Rico reported 23,465 marriage ceremonies during the year 1963. This is the highest marriage figure registered in the island. Marriage figures for June and July, 1963, were the highest in the history of nuptiality in Puerto Rico; (2,275, 2,161, respectively). Nuptiality rate for 1963, however, remained at the same level of 1962, 9.3 marriages per 1,000 population.

The average annual rate for the quinquennium 1958-1962, is 9.3 marriages per 1,000 population.

The median age for the brides is 22.5 years and for the grooms, 24.9 years.

Table 7 presents monthly data in nuptiality for the years 1963, 1962 and average monthly figures for the quinquennium 1958-1962.

Table 8 presents marriage figures for the five health districts in the island.





TABLE No. I

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR PUERTO RICO  
YEAR 1963

NATALITY, GENERAL MORTALITY, STILLBIRTHS, INFANT MORTALITY AND MARRIAGES  
PUERTO RICO: YEARS 1963, 1962 AND AVERAGE FOR FIVE YEAR PERIOD 1958-1962

	1963		1962		AVERAGE FOR 1958-62	
	NUMBER	RATE	NUMBER	RATE	NUMBER	RATE
BIRTHS	(1) 77382	30.8	76677	31.2	75860	32.0
DEATHS	(1) 17386	6.9	16575	6.8	16149	6.8
STILLBIRTHS	(2) 2186	28.5	2187	28.5	2321	30.6
INFANT DEATHS	(2) 3467	44.8	3192	41.6	3466	45.7
MARRIAGES	(1) 23465	9.3	22883	9.3	20928	8.8
POPULATION	(3) 2,513,000		2,455,000		2,367,000	

(1) RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION

(2) RATES PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS

(3) ESTIMATED POPULATION AS OF JULY 1st

NOTES: STILLBIRTHS ARE FETAL DEATHS AFTER 20 WEEKS (FIVE MONTHS) OF GESTATION.

BIRTHS FIGURES HAVE NOT BEEN CORRECTED FOR UNDER REGISTRATION; ACCORDING TO THE  
CENSUS OF 1950 THIS IS ABOUT 4%.

SEE INTRODUCTION FOR POPULATION ESTIMATES USED IN THE COMPUTATION OF THESE RATES.



TABLE No. 2

BIRTHS BY MONTHS AND RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION PUERTO RICO: YEARS 1963, 1962 AND AVERAGE FOR FIVE YEAR PERIOD 1958-1962						
MONTHS	1963		1962		AVERAGE FOR 1958-1962	
	NUMBER	RATE	NUMBER	RATE	NUMBER	RATE
YEAR	77382	30.8	76677	31.2	75876	32.0
JANUARY	6358	29.6	6149	29.2	6313	31.2
FEBRUARY	5559	28.7	5518	29.1	5605	30.6
MARCH	6120	28.5	6140	29.2	5963	29.4
APRIL	5880	28.3	5976	29.4	5840	29.8
MAY	6213	29.1	6173	29.4	6039	29.8
JUNE	6074	29.4	5917	29.3	5727	29.3
JULY	6418	30.0	6333	30.3	6204	30.7
AUGUST	6709	31.2	6817	32.5	6690	33.0
SEPTEMBER	7297	35.1	7035	34.6	7125	36.3
OCTOBER	7229	33.5	7185	34.1	7107	35.0
NOVEMBER	6812	32.4	6810	33.2	6649	33.6
DECEMBER	6713	30.6	6624	31.0	6614	32.1

NOTE: SEE INTRODUCTION FOR COMMENTS ON ESTIMATES USED IN THE COMPUTATION OF RATES.





TABLE No. 3

GENERAL MORTALITY BY MONTHS AND RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION  
PUERTO RICO: YEARS 1963, 1962 AND AVERAGE FOR FIVE YEAR PERIOD 1958-1962

MONTHS	1963		1962		AVERAGE FOR 1958-1962	
	NUMBER	RATE	NUMBER	RATE	NUMBER	RATE
YEAR	17386	6.9	16575	6.8	16149	6.8
JANUARY	1448	6.7	1450	6.9	1406	6.9
FEBRUARY	1235	6.4	1335	7.0	1278	7.0
MARCH	1474	6.9	1507	7.2	1386	6.8
APRIL	1428	6.9	1358	6.7	1276	6.5
MAY	1490	7.0	1451	6.9	1424	7.0
JUNE	1505	7.3	1354	6.7	1402	7.2
JULY	1479	6.9	1413	6.8	1371	6.8
AUGUST	1454	6.8	1367	6.5	1336	6.6
SEPTEMBER	1450	7.0	1371	6.7	1323	6.7
OCTOBER	1475	6.8	1374	6.5	1332	6.6
NOVEMBER	1482	7.1	1348	6.6	1294	6.5
DECEMBER	1461	6.7	1242	5.8	1320	6.4
MONTH NOT SPECIFIED			5		1	

SEE INTRODUCTION FOR POPULATION ESTIMATES USED IN THE COMPUTATION OF THESE RATES.





TABLE 4

DEATHS AND DEATH RATES PER 100,000 POPULATION BY SELECTED CAUSES  
PUERTO RICO: YEARS 1963, 1962 AND AVERAGE FOR 1958-1962

CAUSES OF DEATH	1963		1962		AVERAGE 1958-1962	
	NUMBER	RATE	NUMBER	RATE	NUMBER	RATE
ALL CAUSES	17386	691.8	16575	675.2	16149	682.3
DISEASES OF THE HEART	3137	124.8	3083	125.6	2832	119.6
CANCER	2180	86.7	2019	82.2	1956	82.6
VASCULAR LESIONS AFFECTING THE CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM	1301	51.8	1245	50.7	1114	47.1
CERTAIN DISEASES OF EARLY INFANCY	1294	51.5	1241	50.6	1255	53.0
DIARRHEA AND ENTERITIS	997	39.7	832	33.9	1044	44.1
PNEUMONIAS (ALL)	983	39.1	1032	42.0	1000	42.2
ACCIDENTS	914	36.4	868	35.4	804	34.0
TUBERCULOSIS (ALL FORMS)	527	21.0	582	23.7	656	27.7
ARTERIOSCLEROSIS	452	18.0	415	16.9	339	14.3
CIRRHOSIS OF LIVER	385	15.3	382	15.6	319	13.5
CONGENITAL MALFORMATIONS	390	15.5	382	15.6	351	14.8
DIABETES MELLITUS	338	13.5	305	12.4	257	10.9
SUICIDES	248	9.9	237	9.7	242	10.2
HOMICIDES	195	7.8	207	8.4	167	7.1
NEPHRITIS	136	5.4	133	5.4	164	6.9
ANEMIAS	135	5.4	142	5.8	138	5.8
INFLUENZA	66	2.6	34	1.4	52	2.2
TETANUS	47	1.9	46	1.9	44	1.9
SYPHILIS	33	1.3	28	1.1	38	1.6
WHOOPING COUGH	30	1.2	24	1.0	22	0.9
INFECTIOUS HEPATITIS	12	0.5	9	0.4	13	0.5
MEASLES	7	0.3	26	1.1	26	1.1
POLIOMYELITIS	1	0.0	4	0.2	9	0.4
DIPHTHERIA	2	0.1	3	0.1	6	0.3
TYPHOID FEVER	-	-	-	-	1	0.0
ALL OTHER CAUSES	3576	142.3	3296	134.3	3300	139.4



TABLE 5

NATIMORTALITY BY MONTHS AND RATES PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS  
 PUERTO RICO: YEARS 1963, 1962 AND AVERAGE FOR FIVE YEAR PERIOD 1958-1962

MONTHS	1963		1962		AVERAGE FOR 1958 - 1962	
	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>RATE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>RATE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>RATE</u>
YEAR	2186	28.5	2187	28.5	2321	30.6
JANUARY	231	36.8	193	31.8	202	32.0
FEBRUARY	161	29.5	175	32.3	178	31.8
MARCH	149	24.7	177	29.2	183	30.7
APRIL	185	31.9	168	28.6	187	32.0
MAY	150	24.5	185	30.4	189	31.3
JUNE	182	30.4	171	29.3	189	33.0
JULY	213	33.6	206	32.8	201	32.4
AUGUST	191	28.9	177	26.3	205	33.6
SEPTEMBER	180	24.9	170	24.2	197	27.7
OCTOBER	193	26.9	206	28.8	208	29.2
NOVEMBER	168	24.7	168	24.7	193	29.0
DECEMBER	183	27.2	191	31.1	189	28.6





TABLE 6

INFANT MORTALITY BY MONTHS AND RATES PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS  
 PUERTO RICO: YEARS 1963, 1962 AND AVERAGE FOR FIVE YEAR PERIOD 1958-1962

MONTHS	1963		1962		AVERAGE FOR 1958 - 1962	
	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>RATE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>RATE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>RATE</u>
YEAR	3467	44.8	3192	41.6	3466	45.7
JANUARY	269	42.3	276	44.9	310	49.1
FEBRUARY	223	40.1	265	48.0	281	50.2
MARCH	262	42.8	250	40.7	276	46.3
APRIL	247	42.0	226	37.8	268	45.9
MAY	284	45.7	258	41.8	303	50.2
JUNE	278	45.8	282	47.7	314	54.9
JULY	302	47.1	309	48.8	293	47.2
AUGUST	317	47.2	278	40.8	292	43.6
SEPTEMBER	315	43.2	289	41.1	278	39.0
OCTOBER	361	49.9	292	40.6	294	41.3
NOVEMBER	297	43.6	250	36.7	280	42.1
DECEMBER	312	46.5	217	32.8	277	41.9

NOTE: INFANT DEATHS ARE THOSE OCCURRING IN CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.





TABLE 7  
MARRIAGES BY MONTHS AND RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION  
PUERTO RICO: YEARS 1963, 1962 AND AVERAGE FOR FIVE YEAR PERIOD 1958-1962

MONTH	1963		1962		AVERAGE FOR 1958 - 1962	
	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>RATE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>RATE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>RATE</u>
YEAR	23465	9.3	22883	9.3	20928	8.8
JANUARY	1994	9.3	1822	8.7	1699	8.4
FEBRUARY	1767	9.1	1602	8.4	1505	8.2
MARCH	1893	8.8	1890	9.0	1673	8.3
APRIL	1716	8.3	1686	8.3	1658	8.5
MAY	1930	9.0	1777	8.5	1703	8.4
JUNE	2275	11.0	2157	10.7	1793	9.2
JULY	2161	10.1	2112	10.1	1952	9.7
AUGUST	1797	8.4	1703	8.1	1644	8.1
SEPTEMBER	1500	7.2	1693	8.3	1492	7.6
OCTOBER	1596	7.4	1614	7.7	1536	7.6
NOVEMBER	1846	8.8	1708	8.3	1550	7.8
DECEMBER	2990	13.6	3119	14.6	2723	13.2



TABLE 8  
DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS BY HEALTH REGIONS  
PUERTO RICO: YEAR 1963

REGION	POPULATION (1)	LIVE BIRTHS (2)	DEATHS (2)	INFANT DEATHS (2)	STILLBIRTHS (3)	MARRIAGES (4)
TOTAL	2,513,200	77382	17386	3467	2186	23465
NORTHEAST	902,100	27494	5366	1025	580	8658
NORTH	341,200	9935	2552	481	306	3414
SOUTH	565,700	18141	4511	1127	675	4608
EAST	383,000	11783	2647	451	355	3679
WEST	321,200	9512	2235	366	270	3106
RESIDENCE NOT SPECIFIED		2	13	1		
NOT RESIDENT		515	62	6		

(1) POPULATION AS OF JULY 1, 1963

(2) DATA BY MUNICIPALITY OF RESIDENCE

(3) REGISTERED STILLBIRTHS BY MUNICIPALITY OF OCCURRENCE

(4) MARRIAGES BY MUNICIPALITY OF OCCURRENCE.





TABLE 9

LIVE BIRTHS BY HEALTH REGIONS AND TYPE OF INSTITUTION IN WHICH BIRTH OCCURRED  
PUERTO RICO: YEAR 1963

REGION	TOTAL	GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS	PRIVATE HOSPITALS	HOME AND OTHER PLACES	TOTAL IN HOSPITALS* NUMBER	PER CENT
TOTAL	76569	49333	15476	11760	64809	84.6
NORTHEAST	27416	18146	7545	1725	25691	93.7
SOUTH	18392	10424	3218	4750	13642	74.2
EAST	11085	7698	1555	1832	9253	83.5
NORTH	9895	6566	1226	1226	2103	78.7
WEST	9781	6499	1932	1350	8431	86.2

NOTE: LIVE BIRTHS BY MUNICIPALITY OF OCCURRENCE.

\*INCLUDES POLYCLINICS, DOCTOR'S OFFICE AND NOT AUTHORIZED CLINICS.



TABLE 10

DEATHS BY HEALTH REGIONS, TYPE OF INSTITUTION IN WHICH DEATH OCCURRED  
AND MEDICAL ATTENDANCE, PUERTO RICO: YEAR 1963

REGION	T O T A L			GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS			PRIVATE HOSPITALS*		
	Total	ATTENDANCE		Total	ATTENDANCE		Total	ATTENDANCE	
		WITH	WITHOUT		WITH	WITHOUT		WITH	WITHOUT
TOTAL	: 17386	: 12141	5245	: 6405	6126	279	: 1598	: 1561	37
NORTHEAST	: 5805	: 4396	1409	: 2310	2198	112	: 819	797	22
SOUTH	: 4483	: 3133	1350	: 1777	1699	78	: 397	188	9
EAST	: 2494	: 1639	855	: 842	811	31	: 123	121	2
NORTH	: 2443	: 1433	1010	: 752	705	47	: 111	108	3
WEST	: 2161	: 1540	621	: 724	713	11	: 148	147	1

REGION	HOME & OTHER PLACES			PER CENT IN HOSPITALS	PER CENT WITH MEDICAL ATTENDANCE
	Total	WITH	WITHOUT		
TOTAL	: 9381	: 4454	4927	: 46.0	: 69.8
NORTHEAST	: 2677	: 1399	1278	: 53.9	: 75.7
SOUTH	: 2308	: 1051	1257	: 48.4	: 69.9
NORTH	: 1580	: 619	961	: 35.3	: 58.7
EAST	: 1528	: 706	822	: 38.7	: 65.7
WEST	: 1288	: 679	609	: 40.4	: 71.3

NOTE: DEATHS BY MUNICIPALITY OF OCCURRENCE

\*INCLUDES POLYCLINICS, DOCTOR'S OFFICE AND NON AUTHORIZED CLINICS.





TABLE II

DEATHS BY SELECTED CAUSES BY HEALTH AND WELFARE REGIONS  
PUERTO RICO: YEAR 1963

REGION	TOTAL	HEART DISEASES	CANCER	VASCULAR LESIONS AFFECTING THE CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM	DIARRHEA-ENTERITIS	ACCIDENTS	CERTAIN DISEASES OF EARLY INFANCY	PNEUMONIAS (ALL)	TUBERCULOSIS	GENERALIZED ARTERIOSCLEROSIS	IMMATURITY UNQUALIFIED
TOTAL.....	17386	3137	2180	1301	997	914	1292	983	527	452	473
EAST.....	2647	467	319	188	122	139	169	164	69	66	50
NORTH.....	2552	446	305	190	130	144	184	163	78	86	62
WEST.....	2235	422	284	150	80	98	171	109	86	38	48
SOUTH.....	4511	759	516	335	481	192	362	248	134	123	162
NORTHEAST.....	5366	1019	753	437	183	322	400	298	158	139	149
RESIDENCE NOT SPECIFIED	13	2	-	-	-	3	1	-	1	-	1
NOT RESIDENT	62	22	3	1	1	16	2	1	1	-	1



TABLE 11 (CONT.)  
DEATHS BY SELECTED CAUSES BY HEALTH AND WELFARE REGIONS  
PUERTO RICO: YEAR 1963

REGION	CONGENITAL MALFORMATIONS	CIRRHOSIS OF LIVER	DIABETES MELLITUS	SUICIDES	HOMICIDES	ANEMIAS	NEPHRITIS	HYPERTENSION WITHOUT MENTION OF HEART	ASTHMA	MENINGITIS	OTHER CAUSES
TOTAL .....	390	385	338	248	195	135	136	131	130	105	2937
EAST.....	42	50	42	42	29	32	25	22	25	6	579
NORTH.....	43	58	64	54	31	17	20	17	16	12	429
WEST.....	46	60	52	32	19	18	21	18	24	9	450
SOUTH.....	93	93	73	57	45	41	34	31	33	27	672
NORTHEAST.....	164	123	107	61	70	27	36	43	32	50	795
RESIDENCE NOT SPECIFIED	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
NOT RESIDENT	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8

NOTE: DEATHS BY MUNICIPALITY OF RESIDENCE











UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-URBANA  
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